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*“You take power,
you don’t ask for it
and that’s it”*

Singer Diamanda Galas uses her voice as a weapon in her life as a performer and AIDS activist

Interview conducted by Christopher Moes

Singer Diamanda Galas was one of the first performers to talk about AIDS, long before it was fashionable. Her prolific output in the 1980s included performances and recordings of her *Masque of the Red Death* trilogy and *Plague Mass*, among others. Central to her work has been an unflinching examination of the epidemic that has claimed the lives of so many of her friends and loved ones, including her brother Philip Dimitri Galas.

Galas has also long been a vocal critic of homophobia in the music business, but not by dropping hints in obscure interviews. She has directly confronted record company executives at the nearly sacrosanct New Music Seminar in New York, and found herself being asked to leave.

I recently saw her latest piece, *Vena Cava*, at The Kitchen in New York. Her earlier work, although containing an overwhelming power in its elevation and strength, somehow seemed less accessible on a human level than *Vena Cava*. Armed with just her voice, Galas seems to enter her audience’s thoughts. It is not unusual to experience physical responses to her voice: twitching, spontaneous tears, feelings of movement, and hallucinations of smell or taste are all responses I have been told about.

I interviewed Galas in New York after seeing *Vena Cava*. We had an intense discussion about the AIDS epidemic, personal and political activism, and, of course, homophobia in the music industry.

Galas will be performing at Nightstage in Cambridge, Mass., on April 30. Do not come expecting Madonna.

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Activists demand PWA rights on the inside

Upcoming demonstration in California highlights the segregation and lack of care faced by incarcerated PWAs in many states

By Dawn Schmitz

SACRAMENTO, Calif.—As part of a national movement toward prison AIDS activism, California AIDS activists will hit the streets May 4 to protest the discrimination and mistreatment faced by prisoners with AIDS. Meanwhile, one prisoner-run HIV support center at Vacaville State Prison has been effectively shut down by prison authorities, activists say.

According to Arawn Eibhlyn, a member of ACT UP/San Francisco Prison Issues Committee, care and support for prisoners with AIDS and HIV at Vacaville prison have deteriorated in past months due to a crack-down on a prisoner-run program called Pastoral Care Services (PCS) and the departure of several health care providers. Most of the medical staff at the prison have left, he said, citing frustration with the prison system’s bureaucracy and its lack of commitment to the health and well-being of HIV positive prisoners. “Basically, they weren’t being able to practice the quality of care they felt was needed,” he told *GCN*.

Prison authorities confiscated PCS equipment and locked down two key inmate volunteers who protested guard abuse of an HIV-positive prisoner in March, Eibhlyn said. He noted that the program—which receives no government funds and operates out of a non-heated corner of the prison chapel—is barely operating but has been effectively shut down. “The program is officially still running,” he said, adding, “The prison has a vested interest in maintaining the idea it’s still going.”

By not officially shutting down PCS, Eibhlyn said, Vacaville officials can maintain its dubious reputation as a model of AIDS treatment. However, he said he believes PCS was effectively dismantled because it “empowers prisoners to maintain their humanity inside a system that relies on prisoner passivity to maintain control.”

Members of ACT UP chapters in Los Angeles, Santa Barbara and San Francisco called the May 4 demonstration to demand AIDS/HIV treatment, voluntary access to clinical trials, full access to all prison programs, voluntary and anonymous testing, an end to forced segregation of HIV-positive prisoners, compassionate release for prisoners with rapidly deteriorating health and AIDS education for inmates and prison staff. According to the Centers for Disease Control, there are more than 6000 HIV-positive prisoners in the state.

Michael Haggerty, a Vacaville prisoner and a volunteer at PCS, cited the implementation of a compassionate release program as one of the most important issues facing prisoners with AIDS. “Something must be done to get these men out of here before they are so sick. I realize that the CDoC is in business to keep people, not to let them go, and that the political climate is not conducive to compassionate releases,” he said. “But something must be done before too long or the system will overflow with HIV-positive cases, and it will bankrupt the system so that they won’t even be able to care for healthy prisoners.” He added that he favored the implementation of a system of privately run facilities to care for prisoners in the final stages of AIDS.

Haggerty said the forced segregation of

Continued on page 3

Saturday Night Live disrupted

NEW YORK—Several gay and lesbian activists disrupted a live telecast of *Saturday Night Live* April 11 to protest the appearance of the guest host, actress Sharon Stone. Stone starred in the recently-released suspense film, *Basic Instinct*, which has been heavily criticized by many activists for its portrayal of lesbians and bisexual women as brutal murderers.

Shouting, "Fight AIDS, not women! Hollywood kills, boycott hate!" six activists could be heard from offstage during Stone's monologue at 11:35 pm EDT after gaining entry to the backstage at NBC studios. Dan Bordem, Tom Ledcke, Jamie Leo, Dana Luciano, Steven Melvin and Michele Tepper were arrested and charged with criminal trespass and disorderly conduct. They were all released April 12 and early April 13.

Gay, lesbian and women's activists in several cities have staged protests at theatres showing *Basic Instinct*. In addition, demonstrations were held outside of the Academy Awards ceremonies March 30 and at the earlier New York Film Critics Circle award dinner to protest the portrayal of a presumably gay male murderer in *The Silence of the Lambs*.

—Dawn Schmitz

United Way defunds Boy Scouts over homophobia

SAN FRANCISCO—The Bay Area United Way announced April 8 it would discontinue funding for the Boy Scouts of America in its area in the wake of a task force report released last month that found the Boy Scouts discriminate on the basis of sexual orientation (see *GCN*, Vol. 19, No. 33-34). The United Way policy states that recipient organizations must comply with existing human rights ordinances where they operate.

The Bay Area United Way serves the counties of San Francisco, Marin, Alameda, Contra Costa and San Mateo. A memo issued from the chair of the local United Way chapter stated that it will retain the six Boy Scout councils on a non-funded member status and will allow contributors who wish to support Boy Scout councils to do so by directly naming them as a recipient of a portion of their total donation.

A nationwide boycott of United Way was called last month to bring attention to the Boy Scouts' discriminatory policies. According to Queer Nation/National Capital, activists are organizing in Washington, D.C.; Portland, Maine; San Francisco; Philadelphia; Nashville, Tenn.; Fort Myers, Fla.; El Paso, Tex.; New Orleans; Los Angeles; Seattle; Chicago; Boston and New York City.

—Dawn Schmitz

Argentina allows lesbian/gay group

BUENOS AIRES—A gay and lesbian organization was granted legal recognition by the Argentine government after three years of court battles, the International Gay and Lesbian Human Rights Commission reported March 19. Although the country's Supreme Court denied legal status to the Comunidad Homosexual Argentina (CHA) late last year, the executive branch of the government issued an order guaranteeing legal status to the group.

"Now we can exist as an institution, but it doesn't mean that it is an end of the fight," said Monaca Santino, a CHA member. "Now we're going to fight for our human rights, our individual liberties and against discrimination toward homosexuals." Members of the group attributed the victory to intense international pressure brought against Argentine President Menem during his recent visits to Europe and the United States.

Menem faced demonstrations late last year in New York, Washington, Paris and Brussels, which activists say led the Argentine Justice Department to approach CHA with offers of legal recognition in exchange for changes in the group's stated objectives. The group rejected the offer, and the executive branch finally granted the group recognition with no such stipulations.

—Dawn Schmitz

Activist seeks pres. ballot spot

SEATTLE—A member of ACT UP is seeking a spot on the Republican presidential ballot in the May 19 Washington primary. Steve Michael, a member of the ACT UP

Presidential Project, is filing as a Republican to force the issues of AIDS and gay/lesbian rights into the presidential campaign.

To qualify for the ballot, Michael will need to gather 1000 signatures of registered Washington voters by April 9. If he is successful, he will be entitled to publish a statement in a pamphlet distributed to each of the state's registered voters. "The idea is to get the word out to every voter in Washington," Michael stated. "Our issues can no longer be ignored."

Washington holds open primaries, allowing Democrats and Republicans to vote for candidates in either party. However, binding Democratic caucuses were held March 3, so votes received by Democrats on the ballot will not affect Democratic delegate selection. Therefore, Michael said he is hoping Democrats will cross over and place their votes for him, a "'Republican' candidate who's a queer, pro-choice AIDS activist."

Michael said if he receives 15 percent of the vote, he will be allotted delegates to the Republican National Convention to be held in Houston in August. "The Republicans will have no choice but to let us into the convention if we have delegates. That's when the real fun begins," he said.

Michael and other members of the ACT UP Presidential Project have followed both Republican and Democratic candidates on the campaign trail through several states, often using confrontational tactics to make gay/lesbian rights and AIDS campaign issues. Fifty-five members of ACT UP were arrested in New York April 6, the day before that state's primary, in a massive demonstration intended to force candidates to address the issue of AIDS.

—Dawn Schmitz/Carmine Red

Queer street patrol hits Boston

BOSTON—A queer street patrol hit the streets of Boston April 5 in an effort to prevent bashings and other hate crimes. Having undergone intensive martial arts training by members of the local Guardian Angels chapter, the Pynk Panthers of Greater Boston said they will be "making the streets safe for queers and unsafe for bashers."

"Queers are sick of the violence and are now doing something about it," said Dani Mavronicles, a member of the group, in a statement. "We will no longer sit back. We will fight back." The group patrols the Lansdowne St. area on Sunday night, when several area bars have gay nights, and will soon spend Saturday nights in Central Square in Cambridge, where a gay bar and a lesbian bar are located.

The Panthers said they plan to patrol the streets, escort people to their cars after clubs close, offer sliding-scale defense classes and distribute whistles and safe-sex materials. Similar patrol groups are located in other cities, including San Francisco, Houston, Seattle and New York.

—Dawn Schmitz

Iowa, Vt. senates okay gay rights

DES MOINES—The Iowa State Senate passed a gay/lesbian rights bill last month, sending it to the house by a vote of 28-21. The House passed a similar bill two years ago, but it died in the senate, according to the *San Francisco Sentinel*.

The bill, which would prohibit discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation in employment, housing, education, credit and public accommodations, would exempt religious institutions. An amendment that would have exempted schools was rejected. Iowa's Republican Gov. Terry Branstad has expressed opposition to the measure. The Vermont State Senate also passed a gay/lesbian rights measure late last month.

—Dawn Schmitz

Farmer witness admits perjury

SEATTLE—A man who received an unprecedented seven-and-a-half year prison sentence for photographing a 16-year-old male prostitute—a sentence that was handed down after he was forced to undergo an HIV antibody test—is petitioning the Washington state Supreme Court to reconsider his case in light of an admission of perjury by a prosecution witness, the *Seattle Gay News* reported.

Steven Farmer was given the harsh sentence last summer after two witnesses stated during the sentencing procedure that he had told them he knew he was HIV-positive when he solicited the prostitute. Farmer then became the first person in the state to be

forced to take an HIV antibody test, to which he tested positive. (See *GCN*, Vol. 18, No. 32 and Vol. 19, No. 19.)

Steven Katz, one of the witnesses who said Farmer told him he knew he was HIV-positive in the early 1980s—before the HIV antibody test became available—filed an affidavit January 21 stating that he lied during his testimony because he was infatuated with a member of the prosecutor's office, Michael Hogan. Farmer's attorney has asked the Supreme Court to reconsider Farmer's case for several reasons, including Katz's testimony. The court had earlier found that Farmer had been illegally forced into the HIV test but upheld the sentence based on the test.

A member of the prosecutor's office stated that Katz's recantation was irrelevant because his testimony was not directly related to the outcome of the Farmer case.

—Dawn Schmitz

Gay/lesbian teachers gather

MILTON, Mass.—Approximately 300 participants, representing private and public schools throughout the Northeast, attended the Second Annual Gay and Lesbian Independent School Teacher Network (GLISTeN) Conference, "Education for All," April 7 at Milton Academy, a private school here.

Areas addressed at the workshops included perspectives of lesbian and gay people of color, the administrator's role in school change, building alliances, strategies for increasing visibility and reducing homophobia, working with parents, heterosexual privilege, HIV prevention, legal issues and curricular change. In addition, student and staff representatives of Gay and Straight People (GASP) at Milton Academy discussed the formation of their group and how it has helped to improve the overall campus climate.

For information, write GLISTeN c/o ISAM, 222 Forbes Road, # 105, Braintree, MA 02184.

—Warren J. Blumenfeld

Tax protests

NEW YORK—At 10:30 p.m. on April 15, members of the Tax Revolt for Healthcare staged a demonstration at the General Post Office at 8th Ave. and 34th St. asking people to withhold their tax dollars until an adequate national healthcare plan is implemented. The activists, who represent ACT UP, the Women's Action Coalition and WHAM (Women's Health Action and Mobilization), pointed out that only eight percent of tax dollars covers healthcare services. Peace and justice activists also staged demonstrations April 15 asking people to resist the federal government's military expenditures by withholding their taxes or designating their tax dollars for social services.

—Carrie Wofford

For the Activist in You

New England

- Join the picket line outside Amsterdam's Restaurant at the Park Plaza Hotel in Boston, noon- 9 p.m. daily at Arlington St. subway stop. The Community Justice Committee charges the restaurant management with racism, economic segregation, age segregation, and slave labor. People of color earn, on average \$1.26 less than white workers and 87 percent of the hours worked in the front are by whites only; 98 percent of the workforce is under 30 years of age; of 53 employees, only one is a woman of color; all chefs, bartenders and doormen are white men; and 42 percent of workers are paid less than \$3.00/hour with no health insurance. Demand diversity, equality and economic justice. Stop apartheid Amsterdam's style. Info: (617) 427-8192.

- Protest the Supreme Court's review of the Pennsylvania anti-abortion law, Wednesday, April 22 (the day the case is heard), 5:30 p.m. at the JFK Federal Building at Government Center subway stop in Boston. Info: NOW, (617) 782-1056.

- Advocacy meeting for AFDC/ MassJOBS changes Weld has proposed to slash, Wednesday, April 22, 1-3:30 p.m., Mass. Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Children, 43 Mt. Vernon St. Info: Mass. Law Reform, (617) 742-9250.

- Celebrate Mother's Day at the Women's Lunch Place, a day program for poor and homeless women. Donations bring a Mother's day card. Info: (617) 267-0200.

Got activist news? Write, call or fax us at (617) 426-2723.

—Carrie Wofford

ATTENTION

BOSTON AREA GCN SUPPORTERS, WE NEED YOUR HELP TO CONTINUE GCN!

This week we say goodbye to our last reporter and circulation coordinator, leaving only four exhausted staff members here at GCN. We are unable to hire new staffpeople because of the precarious financial position of GCN. Volunteers working in committees are the only chance we have of getting the paper out in the coming weeks. We need your help to answer phones, type, proofread, enter data, write stories, sort mail and more.

GET INVOLVED TO KEEP YOUR COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER ALIVE! JOIN US FOR A

VOLUNTEER MEETING

MONDAY • MAY 4,
1992 • 7-9PM

at the GCN Office,
62 Berkeley Street,
Boston, MA
Or call 426-4469.

HEY!!

(An Important Announcement)

Our already weird publishing schedule—damn this recession—gets just a bit weirder as the *GCN* office shuts down April 20-24 for the staff's annual April vacation.

Deadline for classifieds and display ads for our next published issue is Friday, May 1. Our next issue hits the street on Friday, May 8. See ya' then!

The Staff

The strange case of Uncle Eddie

Activists claim Philadelphia District Attorney violated the HIV confidentiality rights of an alleged patron of male prostitutes, and charge the national media promoted hysteria

By Julie Davids

PHILADELPHIA—On Friday, March 27, Philadelphia District Attorney Lynne Abraham, in conjunction with the Health Department, called a press conference to announce the arrest of a Center City man with AIDS who "may have been engaged for several years in both oral and anal sexual contact with as many as several hundred young males."

The man's name was not mentioned in the press conference, but the D.A.'s office later leaked identifying information about him and the Sex Crimes Unit of the Police Department released pictures taken while he was in custody. These actions which led activists to question the city's commitment to upholding the HIV-related confidentiality rights of people accused of sex crimes.

Edward Savitz, an insurance actuary, known as "Uncle Eddie," was featured prominently for the next two weeks in local and national news media as a fetishist and pedophile, obsessed with soiled underwear and feces, who was callously exposing young innocent men to HIV.

AIDS advocates maintain the number of young men and boys involved have been contradicted, retracted and repeated, and that words like "contact" have been tossed around undefined, often making it seem as if one can contract AIDS by selling one's underwear to an HIV positive individual. Advocates claim that the vast majority of Savitz's contacts did not involve sexual acts, that most of the youths with whom he was involved were above the age of consent and were engaged as sex workers, and that he was probably a passive recipient of anal intercourse and an active participant in oral intercourse—two activities with a comparatively low risk of HIV transmission.

Critics of the media and district attorney's office include the directors of several AIDS service organizations, the director of the Philadelphia Lesbian and Gay Task Force and members of ACT UP/Philadelphia. Nan Feyler, an attorney with the AIDS Law Project of Pennsylvania, stated, "This is the worst way that [the Savitz case] could have been handled. It's a climate of total chaos that makes it look like we don't even know how [AIDS] is transmitted. It should have been approached from the standpoint of knowledge, with facts, with calm."

Confidentiality violated?

Feyler and others fear the district attorney's and the media's treatment undermine confidentiality legislation such as Act 148, the state AIDS/Confidentiality of HIV-related Information Act, enacted in March of last year. That law bans non-consensual HIV testing and prohibits medical or social service personnel from releasing information on clients' HIV status without informed, written consent.

According to Savitz's lawyer, Barnaby Wittels, Savitz signed a consent form authorizing the DA's office to release his description to the media in order to alert past contacts of a potential health risk. Savitz was to be identified only as a white, HIV positive Center City man in his fifties who was known as "Fast Eddie" or "Uncle Eddie."

However, Wittels charges that District Attorney Lynne Abraham released to the media a list of charges and the bail amount, which enabled media representatives to quickly identify the defendant by name. While the district attorney did not violate the confidentiality law per se, "the DA's office got one over on us," as Wittels said. "And by virtue of Savitz being HIV positive, he's being treated like Typhoid Mary."

The city levied a \$10 million bail, claiming Savitz posed a public health risk. A bail official raised the amount to \$20 million, but then agreed to reduce it to \$4 million, with the provision that Savitz be kept in a mental health facility. Wittels claims that the amount violates Savitz's constitutional right to an appropriate bail amount.

"Arrests like this are made all the time, but they don't make the news," Wittels said. "It's the twin elements of homophobia and AIDS phobia that have made this such a big deal." Wittels added that a fair trial may be impossible at this point.

Scott Burris of the American Civil Liberties Union decried that private sexual activity would become a matter of commentary by criminal investigators and prosecutors. "It would have been very difficult to keep his HIV status secret under these circumstances," Burris said. "This case appealed to the gossip in everyone. And a lot of the potential jury pool are probably appalled by all the details that were in the

media."

D.A. criticized

Advocates for people with AIDS said that Abraham failed to consult any of the AIDS service organizations before holding the March 27 press conference.

"There are tried and true ways of tracking down people who are possibly infected," David Fair, executive director of We The People with AIDS/HIV, said. "A press conference is a particularly egregious form of contact tracing."

Abraham defended her handling of the case, saying she is surprised at the media frenzy that has taken place. On ABC's *Nightline*, she told Ted Koppel that the story was a local one and that "we have been trying to play this very low key." But Harvard University law professor Larry Gostin, who appeared on the same show, called Abraham naive.

Dominic Bash, a member of the We The People with AIDS/HIV and ACT UP/Philadelphia, believes Abraham should resign or be fired by the mayor. "Who is the victim here?" he asked.

Rita Addessa, executive director of the Philadelphia Lesbian and Gay Task Force added, "The district attorney and the health commissioner have to be held accountable for their... bigotry, for... constructing public hysteria without forethought and with utter disregard for the impact on the communities of people with AIDS and, by default, the gay and lesbian communities."

ACT UP/Philadelphia has also targeted Abraham for sensationalizing the story. At a demonstration in front of Abraham's office, where she was pelted with condoms by ACT UP members, ACT UP member Scott Tucker accused Abraham of "playing politics with an epidemic."

Dr. Marla Gold, an open lesbian who is the Assistant Commissioner for Infectious Diseases at the city Health Department, said she does not fault Abraham, but is concerned that "the real issue... education" for young people was ignored.

Sex workers?

"We should stop talking about minors and start talking about teens and sex," advocated Scott Tucker. "These kids were very savvy as sex workers. We're not being honest about the class thing here—working class boys going for easy money," he noted.

ACT UP's Lois Lax added, "If it was young women [involved], they would have been called prostitutes and arrested. These boys were sex workers. They may not all have been 'professional' but the fact is that they exchanged sex for money."

Media complicity

Activists are critical of the media's portrayal, including of one television news anchor who joked about Savitz's toupee being askew, which activists attribute to the weight loss many people with AIDS experience.

An April 2 story in the *Philadelphia Daily News* reports, "Savitz's legacy... will linger as a generation of boys grown old, cursing some with failed marriages, stunted emotions, uncontrolled anger and unresolved shame, according to experts."

When David Fair asked one television news station not to announce the We The People's meeting place in a report on a bomb threat received after Savitz's arrest, the station disregarded Fair's request and aired a picture of the We The People building. Fair said the media's handling of the Savitz case has shown "no sensitivity for the scapegoating of a particularly powerless segment of the population."

Tucker expressed cynicism that the media printed Abraham's announcement uncritically. "The media won't bite the hand that feeds them. To expose Abraham is to expose themselves. The media treats the D.A. like royalty to get the photos of bags of dirty underwear," he said.

Robert Bray of the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force compared the media coverage of Savitz to that of Jeffrey Dahmer. "The Milwaukee story's spin had been 'homosexual overkill,' and 'gay murder frenzy,'" Bray said. "With Savitz, it's 'AIDS equals homosexual equals child molester equals AIDS spreader.'"

The ACLU's Feyler said the overriding message of the media's portrayal is that "to have HIV makes you a criminal." She fears the media coverage implies that "transmission [is] the basis of prosecution."

"Where is the notion of innocence until proven guilty?" Feyler asked. □



MARILYN HUMPHRIES

WASHINGTON—Lesbian and gay activists helped open and close the historic pro-choice "March for Women's Lives" here April 5, providing dramatic testimony to both movements' strength, depth and diversity. Some 69 gay, lesbian and bisexual groups endorsed the rally, one of the largest turn-outs in the capital city's long history of hosting protests. The event boosted campaigns to put women and pro-choice men in elective offices during a time of several Supreme Court challenges to abortion rights.

The next day, the Bush administration renewed its request that the U.S. Supreme Court overturn *Roe v. Wade*, the 1973 decision making abortion a constitutional right. And the U.S. solicitor general filed a brief April 6 clarifying that states may outlaw abortions.

"Fundamentally, the issue today is not an issue of choice," National Gay and Lesbian Task Force (NGLTF) head Urvashi Vaid told more than 750,000 gathered at the rally's conclusion. "It is an issue of power." Earlier, at a step-off assembly behind the White House on the Ellipse, Human Rights Campaign Fund (HRCF) director Tim McFeeley thanked feminists for supporting gay and lesbian rights. "We understand that the same insecure bullies who deny freedom and equality for women also deny freedom and equality for gay and lesbian Americans," he said. Besides NGLTF and HRCF, other major rally endorsers included Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund, the Gay and Lesbian Victory Fund and Physicians for Human Rights.

Pennsylvania Ave. marchers shouted "Shame" as they passed the White House, and then turned their anger on the FBI, which has refused to prosecute abortion clinic harassers, and the Justice Department, which will argue *Planned Parenthood of Southeastern Pennsylvania v. Casey* April 22 in the high court.

Vaid blasted the Bush administration for gagging doctors from discussing abortion and "gagging doctors trying to do AIDS research by not giving them enough money to conduct research." She also called Supreme Court justices "unqualified, sexist henchmen of the new world order."

The pro-choice protest was coordinated by the National Organization for Women, whose new bisexual president Patricia Ireland noted the challenges facing those who fight for personal liberties. "All of us," she told *GCN*, "stand together for reproductive choice in the greater context of freedom and self-determination, of keeping government out of our bedrooms and the most intimate areas of our lives."

Singer Holly Near noted that "it's tiresome to work to confront racism, sexism, homophobia. But it's times like this when we can look around and know that we're not alone."

—John Zeh

Activists demand PWA prisoner rights

Continued from page 1

HIV-positive prisoners was another major problem at Vacaville, adding that he felt such segregation was used to discourage prisoners from testing for the virus. "Segregation is used by the CDoC as a weapon and a punishment," he said. "If people were allowed to test and be treated and remain in population, I believe that the CDoC could never possibly afford to treat—either in man-hours or drug costs—the number of persons currently in the system who are HIV-positive." He estimated that 33 to 40 percent of Vacaville prisoners are HIV-positive.

The push by activists to demand AIDS prevention programs that include condom distribution was cited by Haggerty as an important but "uphill" battle. "There is a black market in condoms here now, it is red hot," he said. "So people know and want to use them.... Possession of them is cause for serious write-up and a loss of up to six months of time." He said lack of clean needles for IV drug use was also a serious problem.

Progress in Wisconsin

Prison AIDS activists in other states have made demands similar to those put forth by the California group, and many have been successful. In Wisconsin, intense ACT UP demonstrations last summer led to negotiations between AIDS activists—who demanded the state Department of Corrections (DOC) implement several recommendations of the governor's task force on AIDS prevention—and prison authorities (see *GCN*, Vol. 19, No. 1 and No. 9).

The talks, which took place over the last four to five months, have yielded several successes for activists, according to Doug Nelson, director of the Milwaukee AIDS Project. The DOC has agreed to eliminate many practices that violate the confidentiality of prisoners with HIV, he said. Among the procedures that will end are the practice of marking identification cards with a code that stands for "blood-borne illness," single-celling and imposing work restrictions.

In addition, the DOC is due to implement

mandatory annual HIV education for inmates and staff, and activists are reviewing the materials to ensure they are accurate and progressive. A confidentiality procedure and educational programs are due to be implemented by July 1, Nelson said. He added that several other issues are being discussed, including condom distribution and compassionate release.

"I feel we've made unexpected progress, and I feel it is because of the political activism here that was quite intense," Nelson told *GCN*, citing specifically the work of ACT UP.

Problems nationwide

"ACT UP has been really good in terms of supporting [prisoners with AIDS] and raising consciousness," according to Jackie Walker, AIDS Information Coordinator for the American Civil Liberties Union's Prisoner Project. She noted that although ACT UP chapters—and other AIDS groups—around the country are increasing their prison focus, there is no organized nationwide movement of prison AIDS activism.

Walker cited the city and state of New York for relatively progressive prison AIDS policies, such as a compassionate release program that has allowed for the release of more than 100 PWAs and a prison condom distribution program. She noted, however, that even prisoners there are encountering resistance to peer-led AIDS education programs. "Some of the most effective programs have been prisoner-run AIDS education efforts," Walker contended.

In addition to New York City, a few states and municipalities have condom distribution programs in prisons, including San Francisco, Vermont, Mississippi and Philadelphia. "What needs to happen is a nationwide plan," Walker said, adding that compassionate release is given to prisoners in some states on an arbitrary basis. Walker noted that legislation to implement a compassionate release program in Washington D.C. jails is currently being discussed. "There are four [AIDS-related] deaths per week in D.C. jails," she said.

—filed from Boston

Interesting for what it did not contain

Dear *GCN*:

Carrie Wofford's article about some of the gay press' use of the Associated Press wire service [March 22-April 4, 1992] was interesting not so much for what it contained, but for what it did not contain.

One of the points of the article is that gay and lesbian reporters are being slighted by some editors in favor of the largely non-gay AP. But I specifically told Wofford the following with regard to the two reporters—Cliff O'Neill and Rex Wockner—she asked me about:

When there is a story that comes out of the District of Columbia that has been covered by both O'Neill and the AP, I choose O'Neill. This is not because of some sense of charity toward him as a gay man, however, but rather it is because his articles are generally better written than those of the D.C. bureau of the AP. (Although I do have a sense of loyalty toward O'Neill.)

Strangely, Wofford's article did not mention this fact.

I spoke with O'Neill after Wofford's article appeared, and in his tape recorded transcript of Wofford's interview of him he mentions *Bay Windows* by name as a newspaper that does a good job of balancing the work of gay writers and the AP.

Strangely, Wofford's article does not mention this fact.

I also told Wofford *very clearly* with regard to Wockner that we stopped regularly using his articles long before we subscribed to the AP.

Strangely, she failed to mention this fact. Or, perhaps it's not so unexplainable that these items were not mentioned. After all, they would not have fit into Wofford's seemingly forgone "analysis" of how badly a newspaper she dislikes treats its reporters.

Sincerely,
Jeffrey S. Epperly
Editor, *Bay Windows*
Boston, Mass.

Amplifying comments about AP

Dear *GCN*:

I'd like to amplify just a bit on the events that followed my criticism of *The Weekly News*' use of a grossly inaccurate Associated Press story about gay and lesbian protests in California, as described in Carrie Wofford's news analysis piece [March 22-April 4, 1992].

The first thing I want to stress is that *TWN* editor Jay Vail reacted with professionalism and real concern when the errors in the story were pointed out to him. The paper published my brutally blunt criticisms in full—not as a letter to the editor but in the much more prominent "Sound Off" guest commentary spot. In addition, Jay called me to emphasize that he would always rather have a story from a gay or lesbian reporter than one from AP. I gave him the name of another L.A.-based queer reporter who I thought could supply him with stories on southern California events that I wasn't able to cover, and *TWN* has run several of that reporter's stories since then. Jay and his staff are serious about the job they do.

Unfortunately, the encounter I had with *Philadelphia Gay News* and its new editor John Mandes at about the same time was less encouraging. Having contributed a number of articles to *PGN* while Tommi Aviccoli Mecca was editor, I called Mandes one day last fall to ask if he was interested in a story about an event happening in Los Angeles. He told me that he would never assign stories to freelancers, because he could get them from AP more cheaply and with better quality. If I planned on writing it anyway, I was welcome to submit the story: He might use it if he liked it better than the AP version. I suggested that if every lesbian/gay paper adopted his attitude all queer freelancers would be out of business, but he was unmoved.

I didn't pursue the matter until a few weeks later, when I wrote to *TWN* about their AP story described above. In hopes of reopening a dialogue with Mandes, I sent him copies of both the AP story and my comments about it. I really thought I would get some sort of reply, if only a scrawled note telling me to go to hell. I didn't, and—more importantly—*PGN*'s wholesale use of AP copy continues. How sad.

One final note: Phill Wilson, quoted in Wofford's piece, is AIDS coordinator for the city of Los Angeles, not the county as the article indicates. A fairly small detail, certainly, but also a reminder that if we're going to

question the accuracy of the mainstream media we'd better have our act together.

Sincerely,
Bruce Mirken
West Hollywood, Calif.

Open letter to Michigan Festival Organizers

(*GCN received a copy of this letter sent to Lisa Vogel and Barbara Price, organizers of the Michigan Womyn's Music Festival from Lesbians for Justice.*)

Dear Ms. Vogel & Ms. Price,

Lesbians for Justice is a group of lesbians and allies who, recognizing that all forms of oppression are inter-related, are committed to working toward the elimination of all forms of oppression. As such, we would like to express our disapproval of the expulsion of Nancy Jean Burkholder from the 16th Annual Michigan Womyn's Music Festival in August of 1991, as well as the manner in which it was conducted, and the manner in which you have failed to adequately respond to the issues raised by the incident. It is also our intention to express our disapproval of your policy of excluding post-operative male-to-female transsexuals from attendance at this festival, as well as the absence of adequate due process available to all women in attendance at the festival in any potential dispute regarding festival policy. We feel that the action taken against Ms. Burkholder was arbitrary, unethical and anti-feminist in nature, particularly since this exclusionary policy was not explicitly stated in your festival literature. However, it is also our position that the issue in this situation is not merely whether or nor such exclusionary policy was explicitly stated, but that such a policy lacks sufficient justification, and that there is simply no rational basis for the existence of this policy.

We feel that the exclusion of post-operative male-to-female transsexuals from the Michigan Womyn's Music Festival not only lacks justification, but it is likewise contrary to expressed ideals of tolerance and respect for diversity, concern for the safety of attendees, universal sisterhood, and feminist values which you claim the festival is intended to represent, for the following reasons:

1.) It is impossible to enforce this policy in a fair and equitable manner, as decisions as to who is and who is not a transsexual ultimately must rely on the discretion of security staff, thus also threatens the safety and security of women of ambiguous gender appearance who are not transsexuals.

2.) Such exclusionary policy is necessarily elitist in nature in that it excludes some women while claiming to be a festival for all women.

3.) Such exclusionary policy, as well as the manner in which it was enforced, are reminiscent of exclusionary laws, customs, policies and practices based on concepts rooted in the patriarchal values of racism, sexism and heterosexism.

4.) Such exclusionary policy reflects patriarchal attitudes and values based on assumptions of biological determinism, which have been used to oppress women, gay men and lesbians for centuries and is therefore inherently anti-feminist in nature.

5.) Such exclusionary policy exists to address concerns based in ignorance and bigotry held by a very small minority within the lesbian community, and does not reflect the feelings and opinions of the vast majority of the lesbian community, without whom the existence of the Michigan Womyn's Music Festival would not be possible.

6.) Transsexuals have attended the festival undetected for many years without causing any disruption or threat to the safety or security of any women in attendance at the festival.

7.) Transsexuals have been no less victimized and persecuted by patriarchal society than have been women in general, and in most cases have been so to an even greater degree.

8.) Such exclusionary policy unduly and unfairly stigmatizes and marginalizes transsexuals, many of whom are actively involved in, and making valuable contributions to their respective lesbian and feminist communities, in which they are generally overwhelmingly accepted.

9.) Any objective criterion utilized to distinguish between post-operative transsexual women and non-transsexual women other than comparison of their respective medical histories would necessarily exclude some non-transsexual women and/or include some transsexual women. This demonstrates that there is no real substantive difference between the two groups according to any rel-

evant criteria, thus such exclusionary policy is necessarily arbitrary in nature.

10.) Festival organizers have demonstrated an unwillingness to engage in open and honest debate regarding the issue of transsexual exclusion.

In recognition of the fact that the marginalization and ostracization of transsexual women provides a mirror in which the oppressive elements of the feminist and lesbian communities can see how they perpetrate some of the very social evils and stereotypes they fight against in the dominant culture, Lesbians for Justice therefore appeals to the organizers of the Michigan Womyn's Music Festival to nullify its "womyn-born-womyn only" policy, and to allow the attendance of post-operative male-to-female transsexuals at all future festivals.

In addition, Lesbians for Justice is very concerned regarding the lack of due process available to all festival participants, as this is a matter which transcends the issue of transsexual exclusion, and represents a threat to the safety, security and dignity of all women in attendance at the festival. We therefore appeal to festival organizers to establish procedures to ensure adequate due process for all women in attendance at the festival in a fair and democratic manner, addressing not merely the opinions and feelings of festival organizers, but likewise addressing the concerns of festival participants.

Please also find enclosed a copy of a resolution condemning discrimination against and exclusion of post-operative transsexuals within the gay and lesbian community, which Lesbians for Justice has endorsed.

Sincerely,
Tamara Severns
Chairperson, Lesbians for Justice
Kansas City, Mo.

More discussion about Michigan

Dear *GCN*:

Regarding the Michigan Women's Music Festival '91 Event: After reading several accounts of the '91 musical event, I must say I am surprised nobody has filed a law suit against the organization for fraud.

You, the organizers, call yourselves liberal women, and yet you don't realize that the very word woman is only a word to denote the female sexual organs of a human being. And in the darkness of night, like a thief who is afraid of being caught by the law, you put out a woman because she wasn't "born" the way she mentally believes and is accepted by the public.

What's up with you guys? Can't you see how wrong you were? A woman is someone who has the external female sexual organs and acts or is publicly recognized as a female human being. What's going to be next—you outlaw women who dress like men? Or, a person who was born with both external sex organs but had one removed soon after birth? Or is of the wrong "color?" Ah! You are a bunch of hypocrites so intent on seeking some "higher pride" that you cannot even stay with a solid principle in your foundation.

If I belonged to your organization, I would demand a refund of fees and seek immediate legal assistance to prosecute your organization under every law possible for every fraud possible.

Think about it—you turned away a "person" who sought the same type of companionship your organization allegedly stands for. Is that statement not true?

Each person of your organization says she has external female sex organs, is accepted as a human female in public life and wants to share their feelings and life with another "person" who has the same external sex organs and is publicly accepted as a human female.

Damn, where would our country be if we were still forced to prejudice our jobs, services and other elements of life by how we were born? Isn't that what the civil rights movement was all about? And now you call yourselves "for" a person's own beliefs, what a lie!

Robie D. Nova
Nashville, Tenn.

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Gay Community News is produced by a collective dedicated to providing coverage of events and news in the interest of gay and lesbian liberation. The collective consists of a paid staff of ten, a general membership of volunteers, and a board of directors elected by the membership.

Opinions reflected in "editorials" represent the views of the paid staff collective. Signed letters and columns represent the views and opinions of the authors only. We encourage all readers to send us comments, criticism, and information, and to volunteer and become members.

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HEY

(An Important
 Announcement)

Our already
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 as the *GCN* office
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Deadline for
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 May 8.

See ya' then!

The Staff

Edward II

Continued from backpage

Shakespeare's *The Tempest* was clearly a meditation on corruption of the state. *Jubilee* was a look at London's punk scene and it was in that film that Jarman's anti-Thatcherite politics began to become apparent in his work. *Caravaggio* was an all out attack on the attempts by church and state to regulate sexuality.

It was during this time that Jarman discovered he was HIV positive and his next three films—*The Last of England*, *War Requiem* and *The Garden*—were direct reflections of this knowledge. Alternately angry and pensive, Jarman was continually refining his vision of what it means to be a gay man living with HIV in a blatantly homophobic culture. Part of *Edward II*'s power, part of its rage and its intense feeling, comes from its director's heightened political perceptions that have grown out of a radicalism prompted by AIDS. There is a character in Joe Orton's *Head to Toe* who prays, "Cleanse my heart, give me the ability to rage correctly." Derek Jarman has prayed and his prayers have been answered.

For Jarman, the homophobia that Edward and Piers face in *Edward II* is part of a historical continuum in which leaders of both church and state have persecuted gay men and lesbians for centuries. But Jarman is not, for the most part, interested in simple, positive gay characterizations and it would be a mistake to read *Edward II* as a simplistic tale of victimization. Jarman is fully aware of the power dynamics that exist in his story and both Edward and Gaveston are painted as rather ineffectual and supercilious queens whose own personal pleasure comes before basic survival skills. When Isabella and Mortimer complain that Edward is not ruling England well, we find it hard to disagree with them. What makes *Edward II* so compelling is that Jarman is willing to balance his analysis of homophobia against other political agendas in an almost perversely measured way; it's Brechtian in its intent, but more complicated and cunning in its effect. This is particularly true of Tilda Swinton's performance as Isabella. At once the conniving, material-obsessed spurned wife and the neglected and scorned marriage-mate, Swinton manages to create a real person from these two extremes. Hateful and hurting, this Isabella is as riveting a character as Edward or Gaveston, and her story is as politically vital as the tale of the lovers.

What makes *Edward II* such a shockingly direct and potent film is Jarman's insistence on placing his own political concerns right in our faces. In the introduction to his companion book *Queer Edward II*, Jarman writes: "It is difficult enough to be queer, but to be a queer in the cinema is almost impossible. Heterosexuals have fucked up the screen so completely that there's hardly any room for us to kiss there. Marlowe outs the past—why don't we out the present? That's really the only message this play has. Fuck poetry."

By demanding that we think about politics—the oppression of gay people—in our own time as well as throughout history, Jarman brings an added dimension to *Edward II* that makes it vital to our understanding of our history and our lives. *Edward II* has the boldness and the intellectual and emotional vigor we have learned to expect from Derek Jarman. But what it also has is an increased, almost frenzied impassioned dedication to its vision that makes it more than memorable, it burns itself into our consciousness. □

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Craig L. Carver

SIOUX FALLS, S.D.—Craig L. Carver died Jan. 31 at his parents' home in Sioux Falls, S.D., from complications associated with AIDS. He was 37, the *Detroit News* reported.

Mr. Carver will be remembered for the hundreds of paintings he created. The Ferndale artist also will be remembered as a good friend to all he came in contact with.

"Craig was a friend to artists all over the state," Barbara Goldman, former director of the Michigan Council for the Arts, told the *Detroit News*.

Mr. Carver moved to Detroit in 1980 and for 10 years was director of Artist Services for the Michigan Council for the Arts. He studied at St. George's College in Jerusalem and was an ordained deacon in the Metropolitan Community Church of Detroit.

After studying in Europe in the mid-1970s, Mr. Carver was a resident artist on the Artrain tour of the Rocky Mountain states and Michigan. He served as regional tour director for the Artrain tour of the upper Midwest from 1974 to 1976.

He studied at the University of South Dakota, the Minneapolis College of Art and Design and the Whitney Museum Independent Study Program in New York. He received the Ethel Morrison Van Derlip Award for Excellence in Painting and was awarded a 1982 National Endowment for the Arts Fellowship in Painting.

His work has been exhibited in galleries, art centers and museums throughout the Midwest and at the New Museum of Contemporary Art in New York.

Mr. Carver is survived by his parents, Bill and Charlotte Carver of Sioux Falls; a brother, David of Golden, Colo.; and a sister, Catherine Carver Dunn, of New York.

—Corey Williams/The Detroit News

Lewis Friedman

NEW YORK—Lewis M. Friedman, 47 years old, died of AIDS, the *New York Times* reported Jan. 8.

An accomplished pianist and composer, Mr. Friedman created the trendsetting new York cabaret, Reno Sweeney, which he owned from 1972 to 1978.

In 1970, he opened the rock club Snafu which he operated for four years. In 1984, he moved to California.

"Some of my happiest memories of the Seventies and early Eighties are of evenings I performed at Reno and Snafu," Eric Bentley wrote to *GCN*. "An artist in his own right, Lou was the perfect host, and sometimes a surprising one—as for instance when wearing a long dress and a wig he did piano accompaniments for Ethyl Eichelberger just before my own act. For us, the gay crowd, Reno and Snafu were a home from home."

—Eric Bentley

Francis Giambrone

BOSTON—Francis Giambrone died peacefully at home on Wednesday, April 8, surrounded by loving friends. He was 52 years old.

His practice in psychotherapy spanned a 12-year period, and focused initially on gay married men, many of whom he helped to make important transitions in their lives. He was honored by Gay Fathers of Greater Boston at a banquet last year for his contributions to that group. Francis co-led the first PWA support group at AIDS Action Committee for several years. He also worked at Hospice West and was a member of the vision group which founded the Hospice at Mission Hill.

In addition to his many professional accomplishments, Francis was an appreciator of art and an artist who expressed himself through photography, painting, theater and, most recently, doll-making. He derived his greatest pleasure, however, from his friends, and he was constantly creating opportunities to bring people together, whether for a weekend at "Narnia"—his house in Maine—or at an elaborate dinner party at home.

The common thread which ran through all of Francis' life was his spiritual quest. In seeking his own path, he investigated many paths. His early studies for the priesthood were followed by travels to Greece, Israel, Nepal and India, where he ordained for a period as a Buddhist monk. He later spent two years as resident manager of Insight Meditation Society in Barre, Mass. His caring for others was most deeply expressed through his work and his friendships.

Francis is survived by his parents, Frank and Catherine and his sister Carol of San Luis Obispo, Calif.; his brother James of

Khatmandu, Nepal; his niece Julie and his nephew Eric.

The time and place of a memorial service will be announced at a later date. A charitable fund is being established in Francis' name, and contributions in his memory may be sent to the Francis Giambrone Fund, c/o Michael Zucker, 7 Arlington Street, Cambridge, MA 02140.

—Alexa Bresnan, Daena Giaradella, Jill Solomon and Michael Zucker

David Kamens

WASHINGTON—AIDS educators and activists mourned the passing of HIV lecturer David Kamens, who died here Feb. 28 at the age of 21.

Despite—or because of—his HIV-positive diagnosis four years ago, the award winning peer educator toured the U.S. to tell young people about the dangers of risky behavior and advise adults on how best to reach those most vulnerable.

"To see so much talent cut off is a very special tragedy," said Jim Graham, who heads D.C.'s Whitman-Walker Clinic.

Kamens assisted several AIDS and gay groups, including Whitman-Walker's Youth Services Task Force, Children's Hospital's clinic, Lifelink's board and a metro area consortium promoting HIV prevention among kids.

He worked through the system by lobbying Congress, but also joined direct actions here, including ACT UP's dramatic protest outside the White House last October. "I'm here to show the country that I don't live alone," he said at the time. "Everyone lives with this disease, not just activists."

Kamens spoke at the AIDS Quilt display here three years ago and testified before the National Commission on AIDS when it explored young people's exposure last year. He will appear in the second *Red, Hot and Blue* AIDS benefit video to be released soon.

Kamens also starred in a cutting-edge videotape that helps elementary school children and mentors learn about HIV through rap, jump rope and go-go percussions.

"For you guys, this is the perfect time to start protecting yourselves, preventing AIDS and other sexually transmitted diseases," he said in the video, *Double Dutch-Double Jeopardy*.

Kamens was diagnosed with HIV disease in July, 1988, one month after his 18th birthday. He had just graduated from the North Carolina School of the Arts.

Kamens was born in Hartford, Conn. and lived in Wheaton, Md., before his family moved to Arlington, Va. He studied at the Corcoran Arts School here and at the Washington School of Ballet.

"He was entertaining, at times blunt, and sometimes in somber reflection," remembered Barabara Powell, of the United Church of Christ, through which Kamens led a workshop for adolescents last July.

"It was refreshing to hear that AIDS doesn't have to be something secret, or in the shadows," said Brian Torres, a San Mateo, Calif., teen who attended Kamens's workshop.

Kamens's ashes were interred at a Virginia cemetery. Contributions in his name may be sent to Lifelink, 1413 K St. NW, Washington, DC 20005.

—John Zeh

Daniel Sotomayer

CHICAGO—Daniel Sotomayer died quietly on Wednesday, Feb. 5, after enduring prolonged complications due to AIDS. Since his diagnosis with AIDS in 1987, Daniel rose to prominence as an AIDS activist. In addition to designing and producing hundreds of colorful and educational buttons, T-shirts and posters, Daniel participated in and led many local and national AIDS demonstrations often ending with his arrest.

Daniel became notorious for his ability to infiltrate mayoral press conferences and publicity fetes in order to demand answers to difficult questions about AIDS issues. He was critical of the Daley administration for its handling of the AIDS epidemic in Chicago.

As the only nationally syndicated openly gay political cartoonist, Daniel often turned his wit and anger into memorable artistic satire and pointed social commentary. His cartoons were regularly featured in San Francisco's *Bay Area Reporter*, New York's *OutWeek*, Philadelphia's *Au Courant*, Indianapolis' *Heartland* and Chicago's *Windy City Times*. No subject matter was too controversial. He was unrelenting in his criticism of the Roman Catholic Church for its stands on AIDS education, gay civil rights protection and reproductive choice. His most frequent target was the Bush administration

which he cited for failure to use the power of the presidency to build a national consensus for the compassionate and medically sound directives called for by the president's own National Commission on AIDS.

Daniel was recently chosen to receive the 1992 Alongi Award for outstanding achievement in gay activism by Impact, Chicago's gay and lesbian political action committee.

Daniel was a long-term AIDS survivor who lived his life to "educate about AIDS with a consistency of ethic most of us can only aspire towards," Victor Salvo said of Daniel in accepting the Alongi Award on Daniel's behalf. Daniel was in a coma the night of the awards ceremony, and died three days later.

He is survived by his lover and life-long partner, Chicago playwright Scott McPherson, his best friend Lori Cannon, his mother Margaret, sisters Gloria and Grace, brothers John and David, hundreds of friend and thousands of admirers.

Daniel was buried at Rose Hill Cemetary. A public "hero's memorial" took place March 10 with 1000 people honoring Daniel.

—Victor Salvo

William E. Thomas

BOSTON—William Edward Thomas III died March 6 at the Hospice at Mission Hill after a long and valiant fight against AIDS. He was 33 years old. He leaves his parents, Marcia and William II of Fullerton, Calif.; his sisters Vicky Fabrizio of Ansonia, Conn. and Polly Nelson of Lakewood, Calif.; his niece Veronica Fabrizio; and his companion of seven years, Chris.

Bill grew up in Ansonia, Conn. and attended Brown University from 1976-1983. He worked at Teradyne as a Software Design Engineer starting as a summer job in college and continuing until he went on long-term disability.

Burial was March 9 in Huntington, Conn. No formal public service is planned. In lieu of flowers, donations may be sent to the AIDS Action Committee of Boston.

—William C. Barnert

Michael Weltmann

NEW YORK—Michael Weltmann, who co-founded the International Lesbian and Gay Association committee of New York's Lesbian and Gay Community Services Center in 1990, died Jan. 27 from AIDS complications at NYU Medical Center in New York.

As male co-chair of the New York Center's ILGA committee, Mr. Weltmann, 42, elevated the United States' involvement in the international lesbian and gay human rights movement. During his leadership, ILGA achieved many victories.

Mr. Weltmann personally fought for the inclusion of lesbian and gay voices in the United Nations. Most significantly, he won Department of Public Information status for ILGA within the UN. He also brought the first-ever openly gay delegation to the UN on World AIDS Day 1991. Thanks to his groundbreaking work, ILGA expects to win official Non-Governmental Organization status, such as the Vatican, the Palestinian Liberation Organization and other groups enjoy.

In spite of grave illness, before he died Mr. Weltmann checked out of NYU Medical Center (where he worked as a registered nurse) to represent the Center ILGA Committee in Berlin.

Mr. Weltmann was buried in Trenton, N.J., near the home of his parents, Nick and Jennie Weltmann. A memorial service was held at the Center Feb. 13.

Michael Weltmann's perseverance, accumulated wisdom, and good humor will be sorely missed. Contributions in his memory may be sent to the Center ILGA Committee, The Lesbian and Gay Community Services Center, 208 W. 13th Street, New York, NY 10011.

—Terry Boggis/ILGA Committee, New York Lesbian and Gay Community Services Center

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GCN encourages anyone who would like to submit obituaries for publication to do so. We ask that obituaries be typed, double-spaced and limited to 500 words, if possible. Include a photograph, if available. We offer writing assistance upon request. Contact Carrie if you have any questions: (617) 426-4469.

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Two girls and an ice pick

So, what is Michael Douglas' problem, anyway?



Sharon Stone and Michael Douglas

Basic Instinct. Directed by Paul Verhoeven. Written by Joe Eszterhaus. With Sharon Stone and Michael Douglas. Open nationally.

Reviewed by Liz Gaist

Okay, the positives: as Catherine Trammel, the schlock novelist/heir/bad girl who is the lead suspect in a series of Bay Area ice pick murders, Sharon Stone looks vaguely like Madonna, and her image fills the screen with searing regularity; dykes, or should I say bisexuals, are portrayed as more beautiful than the average girl, which in the skewed world of Hollywood means that we are on the verge of social acceptability;

never once during the course of this 122-minute "thriller" is one required to glimpse Michael Douglas' schlong.

Aside from these modest blessings, *Basic Instinct* is a predictable, unintentionally self-mocking (that is to say campy) and ultimately dangerous piece of misogynist, anti-queer ideology. You are advised to spend your seven and a half bucks elsewhere.

Let me explain:

First there is Johnny Boz, retired rock star turned San Francisco mayoral benefactor, found dead in an unmade bed full of blood and cum stains. The weapon: an ice pick. Of course, you knew that, having seen it all—the nearly superhuman sex and the stabbing, some 30-plus times, with that blue light special ice pick from K-Mart. Who knew it was selling for under two dollars?

The primary suspect: the aforementioned bisexual Catherine, whom we and Detectives Nick Curran (that's Michael Douglas) and Gus (George Dzunda) meet at her jungle of a beach compound on the coast north of 'Frisco, having been led there by the equally sultry Roxy, Catherine's "friend," (as in, "I'm Roxy. I'm her"—pause—"friend." You can almost see the quotation marks.)

Catherine, it is only too clear, is an animal needing to be tamed (and no doubt Nick Curran's the man to do it.) You can tell this by the way she expresses herself: "I wasn't dating [Boz], I was fucking him."; the way she drives: no seat belt, high-speed passing on the windy two-lane roads of Marin; and the way she wears short dresses and no underwear to the police station.

And Nick Curran...? Underneath his attraction to killing (having knocked off four people in five years, he's earned the nickname "Shooter"), his coke habit, his problem with the sauce, he's just your average cop with a hyped-up libido and happily-ever-after dreams. Ask Beth Garner, his pouty Internal Affairs-appointed shrink-turned-lover-turned-ex. She knows a lot about him, as does Catherine. Now how do you suppose she finds out?

Well, I guess I shouldn't give away too much of the convoluted plot, but let me ask you this: What is Michael Douglas' problem? Why does he keep investing his millions in these anti-woman, anti-queer, right-wing diatribes? You remember, perhaps, *Fatal Attraction*? Or is *Basic Instinct*, that cinematic equivalent of vanity publishing,

simply another vehicle to prove the irresistibility of Douglas' 40-plus body and soul. After all, the entire plot rotates around three bisexuals' (or two bi's and a dyke—we're never exactly sure where Roxy falls on the Kinsey scale) willingness to mess up some very entrenched psychotic patterns for him.

Whatever the answer is, though, the ideological agenda shines through. For instance, it is only too clear from the moment Catherine starts fondling Roxy in front of Detective Nick that murder is positively associated with licentiousness. Similarly, the initial sex-and-slash scene helps develop in the viewer an unpleasant Pavlovian visual equation: woman on top=the ice pick. You get it. Indeed, at the risk of sounding utterly wholesome, let me just say that every expression of sexuality in this film is portrayed as a mere outgrowth of psychic pathology. (It should be noted, however, that Douglas breaks with cinematic tradition here by becoming the first man in recent Hollywood history to go down on a woman on screen—even if it is only foreplay and not the central act itself.)

On top of that, every woman, save a bit-part juvi cop, is a sociopathic murderer. And, in what may be the most dangerous assertion in the film, murder just happens; it has no social or psychological causes, and thus no social or psychological cures.

Plus, the queer thing is bad news from the start. None of the women—except perhaps Roxy—is really a dyke: Beth tells Nick that when she slept with Catherine in college, she was "experimenting"—forget that she's had an ongoing 10-year obsession, if not affair, with the woman; Catherine, for her part, notes: "I have no luck with women." When Nick says to his rival Roxy "Let me ask you something, man to man," she offers no pro-gay comeback. And then there's Nick screaming, "You still like girls, Beth?" right before he blows her away. (Oops! Did I give the ending away?)

It's not that I think all us homos should be portrayed as saints or even pro-gay, because god knows we're not. It's just that the film is made in such a way that it does nothing to challenge the homophobia inherent in the story and its characters.

Still, there are some things about this film we dykes can be thankful for. One is that there is no lesbian sex scene, which, despite whatever subversive reading we might bring to it, would, in this context, make lesbian sex another freak show attraction. The second is that in the attempt Roxy makes on Nick's life (which, sadly enough, results in her own death) there is the suggestion that women are worth dying for, and worth killing for, too.

But the makers of this movie (despite writer Joe Eszterhaus' self-confession in the press) really don't give a shit what we dyke reviewers think of *Basic Instinct*. They're out to create a potboiler. And towards that end, they intend to leave viewers with a few unresolved questions, like: that Beth, was she an ice pick murderer too, or was that just a set-up? But me, I'm only left with one question: that was the pro-gay rewrite!?! □

A version of this review appeared in NYQ.



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Blowdries



Drawing the Line was the subject of a documentary in the Women's Film and Video Festival. The photo exhibit makes its New England debut this month.

Women speak for themselves

The more than 70 works exhibited in the Fifth Annual Women's Film and Video Festival in New York demonstrated a commitment to strong female voices

By Leslie Kossoff

Women's voices of all kinds shared the stage this year at the Fifth Annual Women's Film and Video Festival at New York's WOW Cafe. It contained an impressively wide spectrum of works, ranging from straightforward documentaries to eclectic experimental pieces. The 12-day series ran March 25-April 11 and was curated by Harriet Hirschorn and Mary Patiemo. It featured more than 70 films and videos.

Of the many documentaries I saw, the one that stands out is Shinkha Jhingan's video, *Once This Land Was Ours*. Shot in rural India, it is a graceful and sad piece about the plight of poor migrant women who work as farmers and laborers throughout the countryside. There is no narrative and this is its most elegant aspect. The mixture of sounds, moving trains, singing voices and working hands is perfectly balanced. The women speak for themselves.

I also liked *Among Good Christian People* by Catherine Saalfeld and Jacqueline Woodsen, which focuses on one woman's memories of growing up Black and gay in a Jehovah's Witness family. Interviews with other women and men, many of them involved with gay gospel groups, reveal a range of Black views about religion and experiences of coming out to their families. It

is an interesting look into a fairly secret world—which unfolds nonetheless into a familiar chronicle of religious intolerance and parental confusion. This video, with its joyous gospel soundtrack, has a little something for everyone.

Touching on the religious theme as well is *The Tokenism of Commodities and the Secrets Thereof* by Innes Sommer, which contains footage of supermarket items juxtaposed with recordings of born-again Christian sermons. The film could use tighter editing but it is genuinely funny and original.

The subject of sex was explored thoroughly in this festival, with my personal favorite being *The Match that Started My Fire* by Cathy Cook. It is an exploration of early sexual awakenings in retrospect, with the narration a patchwork of authentic confessional tellings of different women's experiences. The footage is imaginative and creative, cutting from aquariums to schoolyards and then to lawns in the dark of night. The high contrast and deep tones of the black-and-white sequences are truly sensual. The images are expertly edited. I sat through this film with a huge smile on my face.

Drawing the Line by Lorna Boschman is about a photo installation called "Kiss and Tell." The video records viewers' spoken and

Continued on page 9

Hot dyke sex

That's right, hot dyke sex is coming to Boston. "Sex and Art" is an international celebration of lesbian sex and art featuring Susie Bright (a.k.a. Susie Sexpert), who will deliver her State of the Union Address for Lesbians; performance art by Kiss and Tell (the collective responsible for the audience interactive "Drawing the Line" photography exhibit); and emcee Maggie Cassella. WOW and WildKat Productions will be sponsoring the event as "part of our commitment to bringing new, stimulating lesbian-positive images into our community for fun and discussion," according to Aliza Ansell of WOW.

"Sex and Art" will be a benefit for "Drawing the Line," which will be on display in Northampton, Mass., April 24-May 8. Another version of "Sex and Art" is scheduled for Northampton on April 26. Lea DeLaria will be the emcee there.

The "Sex and Art" benefit performances and "Drawing the Line" are likely to inspire a wide range of responses from different people. In any case, it is unlikely that anyone will find them boring.

—Rebecca Kaplan

"Sex and Art" begins at 8 p.m. on April 24, at Harvard's Paine Hall in Cambridge, Mass. Tickets for the benefit are \$17 and are available at New Words (Cambridge), Arborway Video (Jamaica Plain), and Wood & Strings (Arlington).

The East Coast debut of "Drawing the Line" will take place at Thornes Market's APE Gallery in Northampton, Mass., April 25-May 18. Suggested donation is \$3. For more info: (413) 586-8251.

"Sex and Art" will be in Northampton at the Academy of Music on April 26 at 2 p.m.

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"Even if you win your revolution, I'm still an outlaw"

Kate Bornstein's art and reality as a writer/actor/playwright transsexual lesbian

By Rebecca Kaplan

It is rare that you're lucky enough to meet a person who helps you rethink your assumptions about humanity. San Francisco-based writer/actor/playwright Kate Bornstein is one such person. Her current play, *The Opposite Sex...is Neither* is the latest of her creations that helps to facilitate such rethinking.

Her last show, *Hidden: A Gender*, was a depiction of the lives of two transsexuals from different times and cultures that powerfully rendered their experiences with sex-reassignment and the discrimination they faced. *The Opposite Sex...is Neither* is a one-woman show that explores the lives of seven people who have non-traditional gender identities. I saw it March 7 in Hartford, Conn., where the show was presented by Real Art Ways, a production company that strives to present quality alternative theater, including a large selection of lesbian-, bisexual- and gay-related events. (Real Art Ways brought the "NEA Four" to New England shortly after their funding was cut.)

Most of the characters in *The Opposite Sex...is Neither* are based on real people. Kate's first character is a Goddess-In-Training who must find seven people who are willing to challenge identity and help them transcend their gender roles. Only by helping these people reach their higher awareness can the G.I.T. advance to the next level in her training. In this sequence we meet several different characters, including Ruby "Love my breasts, love my cock" Tuesday, and Billy, a female jazz musician who passed as a man for most of her life after having been told, "Honey, swing is for men." One deeply religious character finds legitimization of her gender identity in the bible, quoting Galatians 3:28, "There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither bound nor free,

there is neither male nor female: for ye are all one in Christ Jesus."

As the characters go through their conflicts and resolutions, we see that gender is not a simple either/or division. Bornstein shows us how gendered images are taught by the media, erotica, advertising, religion and our peers. But the reality is that gender involves a whole range of fluid and changing characteristics, and in one way or another, few of us fit into expected societal gender roles.

After the performance, I accompanied Kate and an entourage of friends and fans to a local restaurant, where we had the opportunity to talk more about *The Opposite Sex...is Neither*. Certainly some of the show's ideas come from Kate's own life as a male-to-female transsexual lesbian, but there is no shortage of analysis. In her work, she asks us to question our assumptions about gender roles, and with that comes questions about the binary traits that we are taught to believe in; man/woman, gay/straight, black/white, rich/poor, can all be seen as artificial dichotomies. Bornstein also points out that when traditionally oppressed groups rise up—but continue to believe in the dichotomies—many people's experiences are discounted. As one of the show's characters, a male-to-female transsexual named Kat, says of the women's and gay rights movements: "Even if you win your revolution, I'm still an outlaw."

I enjoyed seeing the glimpses into the lives of the characters in the play, and I found myself wishing to get to know some of them better. Perhaps the play could be lengthened to allow more depth. But whether or not that happens, there's little doubt that Kate Bornstein will explore these issues further in her future work and she'll continue to shatter people's preconceptions about gender. □

Festival

Continued from page 8

written reactions to the Vancouver, B.C., show, which contained photographic images of lesbians in various states of sexual contact. The interviews are great and the photographs are sexy, but the soundtrack of heavy breathing really interferes with it. It seems false and forced. It is a shame because the visuals are hot hot hot.

Speaking of hot, *Hot Girls* by Jane Hudson is an interesting take on those horrid phone sex commercials. You know the ones. Only this time the tables are turned on the viewer. As the images of women in supposedly provocative poses lure you to call, another message is being relayed through subtitles at the bottom of the screen. One woman on a bed is about to be willingly raped by a Peeping Tom, for example, but the message under the image reads "fiction," i.e., this isn't reality.

Monique, a video by Joan Jubela, follows the life of a young lesbian and her adventures in clubland. What makes this piece interesting is its inside view of teenage dykedom. Dress and style are omnipotent, and you wear your lesbian life in the streets and not just in the clubs. It is a work in progress and I'd be curious to see the finished product; it's important to get this history down.

Another important aspect of women's lives is being explored in *A Medicalization of Birthing* by Maria Elena Venuto. But the video, which is about the perils pregnant women endure under a doctor's "care," is a tough one to sit through. Although I agree with the premise that modern medicine subjects women to invasive torture-like procedures, the relentless onslaught of brutal images of episiotomies and C-sections in vivid color was overkill. I found it to be a horror film, a true horror film.

Then again, the artist probably succeeded at what she intended. And that's what this festival is about: provocative and enlightening work that hits its mark. The only thing more impressive than the number of films and videos at the WOW show was the commitment to a strong female voice. □

Corrections

Due to a technical mishap in our OutWrite issue (March 22-April 4), Penny Perkins' byline did not appear on her profile and interview of OutWrite '92 keynote speaker Mariana Romo-Carmona. We sincerely regret this error. If you know anyone who saw the fabulous interview and you think

they might not see this correction, please let them know that it was conducted by Penny Perkins. We cannot apologize enough to Ms. Perkins.

The same byline gremlin struck our following issue (35-36), which was missing Trixi's credit for the fabulous Penny Arcade interview. We're so sorry Trixter.

Now, going way back, *GCN* apologizes for the headline "'93 March on D.C. to include bi's, but not disabled" (Vol. 19, No. 29, page 1), which some readers found misleading. Additionally, *GCN* mistakenly reported that the 20-member steering committee had failed to reserve a seat for a disabled representative. There is no such 20-member steering committee. There is a nine-member executive committee (for which two disabled women did seek election and were not elected, as *GCN* reported) and a 60-odd member national steering committee made up of regional representatives.

The national steering committee does have a seat reserved for a disabled community representative, as well as for bisexual, leather and transgender representatives, and a mandate that at least half of its representatives be women and at least half be people of color.

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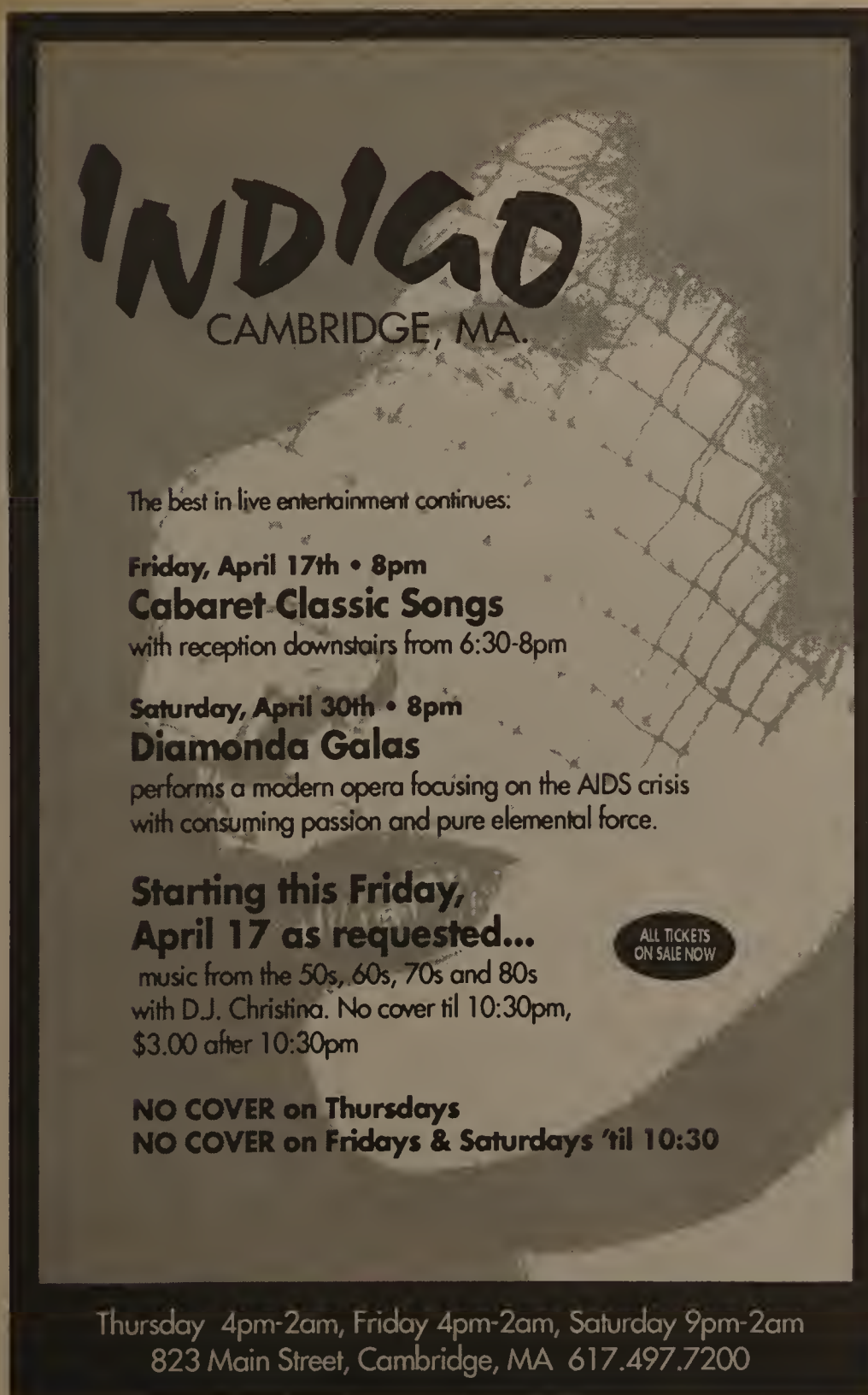
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Diamanda

Continued from page 1



You've long been a critic of sexism, homophobia and AIDSphobia in the music business. Would you say the industry has improved in these areas at all?

When straight men get together, whatever racial groups they fall into, they always go for gay men and women. The thing that brings them together is the people they can attack. Homophobia is *sold* by the music industry. I work in the music business but I'm considered to be totally like an outsider.

Why?

First of all, being involved on any level politically can make you an outsider in the music business. It's one thing to walk around making generalizations on your record covers about how much you love doing AIDS benefits and charities and stuff like that, but that shit is very suspect in my eyes because people get a percentage of their benefits. There's a lot of that bogus shit that really gets in the way.

And then when I hear something like *Red Hot & Blue*, I want to puke; that fucking record. There's condescension, there's pity, there's people talking that don't know what the fuck they're talking about. They're abusing Cole Porter's music completely. These motherfuckers don't have a fucking clue.

All of them?

Most. Not by any means k.d. lang, who I love, she has a beautiful voice. I really love her and a couple of others. But for the most part, *Red Hot & Blue* fucking stunk and the people who I object to the most are Tom Waits, U2.... It's mainly the men I object to, not so much the women. The men I thought were fucking pathetic. You know, they're talking like shit.

It's like, how many straight men are in ACT UP, for one thing? Now, why is that? I go to ACT UP meetings and there are a lot of straight women in ACT UP. But the men are just such assholes, they don't have a clue. Now, in the music business, the record companies say, "This is the new charity, this is the new thing happening, you should put your voice out there, it'll be good for your public image." And that's it. And that makes me sick because I see a lot of apathy.

This is a very long-winded answer to whether or not the music industry has changed in its response to the AIDS epidemic. I don't think so. I think it has to happen from people who are considered outsiders by the mainstream sensibility.

But what about Madonna's contributions?

Well, she certainly puts her money where her mouth is. She's one of the only pop singers I

can think of who really gives a fuck. I'm not a pop music fan, I'm not into her music at all because I'm into a totally different sensibility. I would say that she's been supportive through this epidemic. I've never seen her perform, I've heard her music in the supermarket. There's a place for a lot of different people in this world, no one can do everything. You can ask Madonna to do this or do that and she's going to be useful in certain ways. She brings people a lot of power, and that's important.

But as for the rest of us outsiders, we have to make our own music and do this shit ourselves because this bit about asking the mainstream to support this and to say a few nice words about the gay community... fuck that! Who needs to ask? Who needs to be polite? You take power, you don't ask for it and that's it.

That's how it is for me, I don't hold back. I try to push the people that I know, that I believe in, and it doesn't sound directly political. I think that's what is political: talking one-to-one on the most basic level, not by grandstanding.

When I tell people they could become involved in fighting the epidemic, I mean that person could go out and work in a fucking hospice if he or she doesn't want to get involved in the activism side of it. It's not like a person has to say, "I'm going to put 14 hours a day into this or I'm not going to do anything." There are a lot of people on a lot of different levels and that sounds really moderate, but it isn't.

It's strange, you know, in the art world it's much different. Certainly there's homophobia and AIDSphobia but not anywhere to the degree that there is in the music industry. The art world isn't as conservative as the music biz.

Before my brother died he always told me that it was easily observable that the gay community was always at the forefront, at the vanguard of political situations, as far as the art world is concerned. It's a sensibility, that's what we're talking about, totally different sensibilities. Straight women get into that.

Why do you think there is often a bond between straight women and gay men?

It's a sisterly bond, I've always felt. For me it's just a natural bond. I wish I knew why that was. With gay men, in general, I feel I'm not protecting myself, my face is different, I can talk the way I normally talk. When I'm around straight men, I immediately think, "What do they want? What do they want?" It's really strange. Maybe they're just born fucked. I mean, a person is born gay or they're born straight. Maybe straight men are born fucked up, who knows? When I refer to myself, the last thing I think of is the word "straight" on any level at all.

If it weren't for my gay friends, forget about it. I would have no joy in my life. From my first singing teacher—a gay man who gave me lessons for 10 years for free—to some of the people I currently work with, I have a very solid sense of who I am.

It's hard to be involved [in a relationship] with someone when they don't get it. If you're a really strong woman, straight men can't get it up. Get down to basics, they're terrified. They get all freaked out. Who has the time for that?

And excuse me, but the straight male community is not dealing as much with the AIDS epidemic. They don't feel threatened because they hear all the time that they can pass the virus, but their likelihood of catching it is much less than women. So they have attitudes like, "We're the survivors of this, we don't have to worry about it, we don't have to wear condoms."

So women are forced to wear these new big rubber things you put in your cunt. It makes me sick. Now we have to do that too, because they won't put the condoms on. So now women are supposed to put on these big things because it's our job to make sure we don't die because this motherfucker's in a state of denial? I mean, it's the same thing as Donald Trump wanting to give money to some rape crisis organization to make sure Mike Tyson could get off easily.

Even though your political involvement makes you an outsider, is there a place in the art world and the music business where you end up fitting in?

We all tell different stories. I tell a story. Karen Finley tells a story. Madonna tells a story. As women we all have our functions. My stuff is a little dark for public consumption and a lot of people can't handle it. But that's the way it is because I'm going to tell the shit the way I want to tell it. Some people can deal with it and some people can't. I'm not going to alter it if they can't. You know what I'm saying? When I'm up there on stage, I am *out there* too. □

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men, individuals & couples

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We carry the complete Aveda
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Primary health care,
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testing, women's health care
7 Haviland St.
Boston, MA 02115
(617) 267-0900

HOLISTIC HEALTH SERVICES

FENWAY COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTER
Acupuncture, Chiropractic,
Massage, Polarity
7 Haviland St. Boston, MA
(617) 267-0900 x269

INSURANCE

DAVID L. COLLINS, CLU
Congress St., PO Box 1762
Boston, MA 02105
1-800-352-3185

LAWYERS

ATTORNEY FRANK H. MCKELSON
8 Faneuil Hall
Marketplace 5th Fl. Loft
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PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

THE GREATER BOSTON BUSINESS COUNCIL
Lesbians and gay men in
business and the professions
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\$12.95. Miller, Box 6211,
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No checks please, cash or
M.O. for quick reply.

RELIGIOUS ORGANIZATIONS

AM TIKVA
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Lesbian and Gay Jews
PO Box 11, Cambridge, MA
02238 Events phone:
(617) 926-2536

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M-S 10-7, Su. 12-6

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(617) 461-0098

MARJORIE E. POSNER CFP EA
Cert. Financial Planner
33 Ashcroft St.
Jamaica Plain, MA
02130 (617) 524-7565

WOMEN'S NIGHT CLUBS

INDIGO - A Club for Women
823 Main St.
Cambridge, MA 02139
(617) 497-7200 Th. 4, PM-2
AM, F 4 PM-2 AM, Sat. 9 PM-
2 AM, Sun. 9 PM-1 AM

Get your listing in the Community Guide. Call (617) 426-4469 TODAY!

ATTENTION

**BOSTON AREA GCN SUPPORTERS,
WE NEED YOUR HELP TO CONTINUE GCN!**

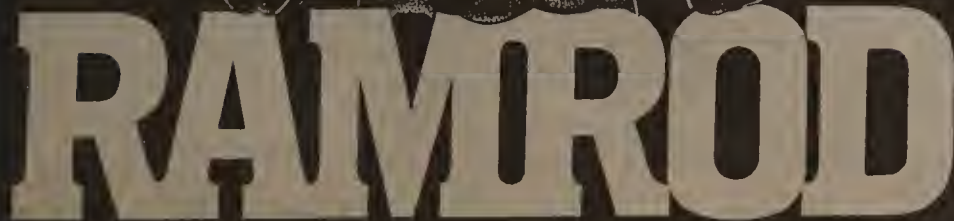
This week we say goodbye to our last reporter and circulation coordinator, leaving only four exhausted staff members here at GCN. We are unable to hire new staffpeople because of the precarious financial position of GCN. Volunteers working in committees are the only chance we have of getting the paper out in the coming weeks. We need your help to answer phones, type, proofread, enter data, write stories, sort mail and more.

**GET INVOLVED TO KEEP YOUR COMMUNITY
NEWSPAPER ALIVE! JOIN US FOR A**

VOLUNTEER MEETING

MONDAY • MAY 4, 1992 • 7-9PM

**at the GCN Office, 62 Berkeley Street, Boston, MA
Or call 426-4469.**



1254 BOYLSTON • BOSTON • 617 266-2986

Brother To Brother

Thursday, April 23rd
6-8PM
Harriet Tubman House
566 Columbus Avenue
3rd floor confr. room
Boston

Join us for this nationally acclaimed workshop for African American gay men.

- Loving ourselves
- Loving our sexuality
- Loving our families
- Loving our triumphs and failures

Food and refreshments to follow the workshop.
Admission is free but registration is required.

**To register or for more information
call (617) 437-6200, ext. 499**

HIV positive men are encouraged to attend.

Sponsored by the AIDS ACTION Committee
and the Multicultural AIDS Coalition

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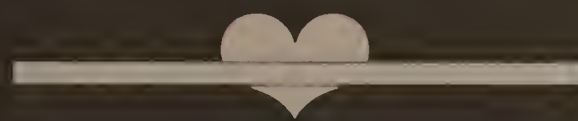
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onto just about anything.***

Place your order by May 15 to insure that it arrives in time for Pride.



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PERSONALS

GCN REPLY BOXES

Replies to *GCN* Boxes should be addressed to *GCN* Box#, *Gay Community News*, 62 Berkeley St., Boston, MA 02116. This applies to *GCN* Boxes only, not to P.O. Boxes. Mail may be addressed to *GCN* boxes for five weeks after the issue in which it appears. Check carefully to be sure you have the correct box number!

ALTERNATIVE LIFESTYLES

1-900-740-6600

Private mailboxes \$1.39 minute

WOULD-BE GM PORN STARS

Boston-based video voyeur is ready when you are. If you wanna go solo or do it with friends, I've got the camcorder to capture your performance. We each keep a copy. *GCN* Box 358 (44)

Rhode Island Dyke - leftish, moonwatching Baby Boomer, adrift in a sea of personals - Throw me a line I can swallow! P.O. Box 40203, Providence, RI 02904 (44)

QUEER ACTING, QUEER LOOKING

Radical, politically-active, out, feminist, Jewish, bi-dyke bottom. Seeking women to speak to my body and stimulate my mind. Long walks on the beach not necessary. *GCN* Box KP3 (44)

GAY COMMUNITY NEWS CLASSIFIEDS

10 for 10

IF YOU PLACE A PERSONAL IN *GCN* BETWEEN NOW AND JULY 1ST, PAY JUST \$10 AND YOUR AD WILL APPEAR EVERY OTHER WEEK FOR 10 WEEKS.*

HEADLINE (optional)

BOLD

max. 30 characters

FLAMER

max. 20 characters

COPY

BASIC COST

- ☐ *Special offer : 10 for 10 Personals
\$10 for 1st 25 words; .50¢ for each addtl word
\$_____per ad for 5 runs (10 weeks) \$_____
☐ Flamer \$3.50 ☐ Bold \$2.00 \$_____
(one time cost for 10 for 10 personals 5 runs (10 weeks))
☐ Business:
\$10 for 1st 25 words; .50¢ for each addtl word
\$_____per ad x _____(number of runs) \$_____
☐ Non-Business:
\$7 for 1st 25 words; 25¢ for each addtl word
\$_____per ad x _____(number of runs) \$_____

HEADLINES

- ☐ Flamer \$3.50 x _____(number of runs) \$_____
☐ Bold \$2.00 x _____(number of runs) \$_____

DISCOUNTS

- 20-30 Consecutive weeks. Deduct 15% \$_____
31+ Consecutive weeks. Deduct 20% \$_____

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- ☐ Pick-up box. \$4 for 6 weeks \$_____
☐ Forwarding box. \$7 for six weeks \$_____

BOXED DISPLAY CLASSIFIEDS

- ☐ \$20 per column inch, _____inches x \$20 \$_____

TOTAL

\$_____

Name_____

Address_____

City_____State_____Zip_____Phone_____

Deadline for Classifieds is Friday at 3 p.m. for the next Friday's edition. All ads must be prepaid.

All display ads must be camera ready unless alternative plans have been made. No ads accepted over the telephone. Please clip and return this ad form with payment to GCN Classifieds,

62 Berkley St., Boston, MA, 02116. Visa/MasterCard accepted.

KINKY ORAL STUFF

WM 27 will put my tongue anywhere! Especially armpits, feet, other sweaty parts. Prefer smooth-chested 18-26. Suite 424, 304 Newbury St. Boston, MA 02115 (42)

GWF SEEKS MATE

GWF, 38, Professionally employed seeks the right woman. Likes music, movies, is romantic. Wants a monogamous relationship. I'm ready. Let's see if it works. *GCN* Box F38 (44)

SHARE PARENTING

Living on the outer Cape, I, a gay male, would like to have a child and possibly share the parenting of that child with a lesbian. Write and we can explore the possibilities. P.O. Box 918, Provincetown, MA 02657 (48)

Vermont Bear, tall, beard. Sane but kinky, short hair, very hairy, cut offs, work boots, home video exchange. Day, Box 3086, Burlington, VT. 05401 (46)

FOR SEX ONLY

GWF, professional, mid-thirties has spring fever. I *have* a lover, just want to have more sex. Any women interested in wild nights or afternoon delight? Race, age unimportant. Serious replies only. L22 (46)

WHITE, RICH AND FREE...

I'm *not* white, *not* rich, (not male either, in case you got this far) but I *do* have some free time now and then. Want me to spend some of it with you? *GCN* Box WRF (42)

DATES OR SEX

What about dates *for* sex? Is your calendar *too* full of things that are *too* serious. Mine is. Let me

pencil you in for something fun. Slightly stressed-out LF, late twenties, seeks women for occasional diversions. Age, race unimportant. *GCN* Box 676 (46)

I'm too sexy for this ad. Box 666 (42)

Are you too sexy for these ads?

Why not write your own and prove it? \$10 buys you 10 weeks to see if anyone else thinks so. For a limited time, your personal can appear five times (ten weeks) for only \$10. See form on this page for details.

Attractive, trim, easy-going, healthy HIV+ GWM into erotic massage and more. Lay back, enjoy! Also alternative therapies, audio, travel. (404) 876-9529, P.O. Box 53142, Atlanta, GA. 30355. (46)

GWM, elfish, thin fem wants bad white street boy, black-haired, thick together eye brows, long chin, long boned, wide/long nose, hight skin. Hungar, 9801 S. 157th Pl., Gilbert, AZ 85234 (36)

YOU'RE A PAIN IN THE ASS

At least that's what I'm hoping. GBM bottom seeks exceptionally endowed top. Also FF. Box PS3 (42)

DO YOU BITE

GWM 24, 5'10", 150 lbs. attractive with smooth boy body wants to bite other smooth boy bodies. Safe, discreet.. Pix encouraged, but not necessary for reply. *GCN* Box B12 (40)

Radio/Cable TV for and about us.Send \$2 (applied to order) for catalog to Box 11212, Washington, DC 20008 (48)

GWM, 30, sexy, blonde, slim, cute buns seeks well-hung studs for fun times. Love to deep-throat. P.O. Box 656, Cambridge, MA 02140.

CHILD CARE

Lesbian couple seeking live-in child care help for infant girl in Cambridge. Experience with children, non-smoker, drivers' license required. Call 354-5447

ANNOUNCEMENTS

FISHER PRICE PIXEL CAMERAS.

Do you have one? Has the novelty worn off? I hope so because I really need one. Write to *GCN* Box Pix, name your price.....(38)

Key youth issues for gay men and lesbians detailed in audiotapes collected by veteran reporter John Zeh. Send \$2 (applied to order) for catalog to Box 11212, Washington, DC 20008 (48)

YOUNG CREATIVE WRITERS CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS

Multicultural anthology of creative writing by young lesbians, gay men, and bisexuals. *From Now On* seeks poetry, drama, fiction from writers born in 1966 or later, especially from people of color. Many submissions already received. Send works ASAP to Lowenthal/Wofford, PO Box A-164, Hanover, NH 03755. (42)

MEDITATION RETREAT

For lesbians and gays. First ever on east coast in Vipassana tradition. April 10-12. Led by Arinna Weisman, Eric Kolvig. Contact Bruce (508) 745-2381 (38)

GAY, LESBIAN AND BISEXUAL YOUTH
For a list of newsletters, pen pal programs, talk-lines, and other resurces, send a self-addressed stamped envelope along with a note requesting the National Resources List to the Youth Outreach Program, 1213 N. Highland Avenue, Los Angeles, CA 90038. This list is available free to anyone 23 or under.

BATACUDA BELLES

Women's Percussion-Marching Band African-Brazilian, cuban rhythms-plays wide variety of community events-has openings. All levels of musicianship welcome! Rehearsals 7-9 pm Tuesdays at Graham & Parks School, 15 Upton St, Cambridge. Call Angelamia Bachman for more info. Opening date 3-24-92. (34)

HELP WANTED

See page 4 for exciting job opportunities at *GCN*.

BAND NEEDED

The Women's Lunch Place (a day shelter for women) is looking for a FUN band to play at our Mother's Day celebration—can you play for free—or close to it??? Please call Maura at 267-1722 (38)

PEACE AND JUSTICE ORGANIZER

Boston Mobilization for Survival, working to oppose U.S. militarism and to promote social and economic justice, seeks head organizer to build grassroots involvement and activism, and to expand our network of members and supporters. Key responsibilities include planning political program and strategy, increasing membership involvement and leadership skills, fundraising and event organizing. Minimum 5 years organizing experience required. Salary \$27,000/yr, plus benefits. Equal opportunity/affirmative action employer. Please send resume, two writing samples, and three references to: Boston Mobilization for Survival, c/o Search Committee, 11 Garden St., Cambridge, MA 02138

DAY/EVENING ATTENDANTS

Personal care attendants to assist disabled couple and friendly dog. No experience necessary, but must have a drivers' license and be dependable, mature energetic. Weekdays or weekends, all shifts. \$200-\$250/wk. Call 731-6228. (38)

Development Director for progressive non-profit legal/educational organization to direct immediate and long term funding program. Excellent benefits. Send resume, salary requirements, extensive cover letter to DD Search Committee, CCR, 666 Broadway , New York, NY 10012. Equal opportunity employer; women, people of color, lesbians/gay men urged to apply. (38)

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

3/5 time. Educational advocacy org. seeks Administrative Assistant to work on national AIDS/HIV education project. Asst Director with administration, provide clerical support. Detail-oriented person with word-processing skills who can work independently and as part of a team. KNowledge of AIDS issues annd Word Perfect. Spanish desirable. \$14,000. Benefits, generous vacation. Resumes by April 30 to National Coalition of Advocates for Students, 100 Boylston Street, Suite 737, Boston, MA 02116. Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer. (38)

EARN COMMISSIONS referring clients to us. We advance funds to PWA's in return for their life insurance benefits. American National Investors Corp. 1-800-594-2168. (40)

CANNERY WORKERS/ALASKA

Up to \$600/wkly. Earn \$4000+/monthly on fishing vessels. Over 6000 openings male/female. No experience necessary call 1-206-736-7000 ext. 5449B2. (34)

\$800 Weekly Possible! Working at home! 37 different opportunities. Rush \$1 and self-addressed stamped envelope to: Harvey Council, H-125 Blake St., Hyde Park, MA 02136

VOLUNTEERS

GCN NEEDS YOUR HELP.

GCN began as a volunteer run organization, and we still depend heavily on volunteers. In fact, our survival now depends on more people-power! To find out how you can get involved, call 426-4469 and ask for a volunteer information package. This will give you a better sense of how our office works and the type of help we need. Below are some critical ways to get involved right away.

PLAN A BENEFIT

Enter the thrilling world of events planning. Gain valuable experience while mobilizing the community to support *GCN*.

PURSUE PROOFREADING

GCN always needs diligent readers to make sure no typos make their way into publication. Are you good at catching errors? This job might provide unique satisfaction for you. Proofing happens on Weds. and Thurs. night every other week. Call for details.

FOR SALE

"TAKE A STAND FOR SEXUAL LIBERATION! SUPPORT GAY RIGHTS!" t-shirts w/pink triangle underneath (S-XL) \$12.00, 2 for \$20.00. Freedom Alliance, P.O. Box 240915, Apple Valley, MN 55124. (30)

JAMAICA PLAIN-EXEL. COND. \$107,500
Charming turn of the century single; 6 1/2 rms; sparkling hdwd flrs; lg. eat-in kit. newer systems and roof; flower garden; close to T; friendly neighborhood. Owner 524-5395. (38)

APARTMENTS

SOMERVILLE-DAVIS/PORTER SQ.

Beautiful 2 poss. 3 BR in woman-owned/occ. house. Hdwd flrs, orig. moldings, fireplace, yd. w/d and storage in basement. \$800. 666-0403. (36)

2nd floor for rent \$550, 2 bdrm, quiet neighborhood. near Rte. 24 & 495. Call (508) 238-0872 after 6pm. (38)

Fort Hill - \$500, all utilities payed. Studio apt., hdwd floors, eat-in kitchen, on safe and friendly street. Newly remodeled. 445-2013. (38)

So. Shore Restaurant/Pub on busy State Hwy. Large kitchen. Ample parking, 7 day license. Business and Real Estate. Call days. Elaine (617) 770-2481. (36)

SUMMER SUBLET IN J.P.

Large, sunny , furnished 1 bedroom apt. with stor-

Classifieds

age. Looking for responsible person or couple June, July, August. \$450+. 524-3793 (38)

BEAUTIFUL HUGE SOMERVILLE APT.
4 large bedrooms upstairs; 2 living rooms, dining room, eat-in kitchen, downstairs. hdwd floors and trim, large porches/sundeck, yard, laundry, quiet street. Available June 1 625-0585. (48)

HOUSING WANTED

DYKE SUBLET NEEDED
Easy-going but responsible lesbian and well-behaved cat seek housing for June, July, Aug.. Pref. J.P, Cambridge, Somerville. 1'm a non-smoker, occasional beer-drinker and 1 don't cook with meat. \$250-300/mo.. range. Call 524-9085.

LF 31, seeks sublet April to mid-June. Non-smoking. Boston/Cambridge area. Ruth, 625-4183. (38)

FALL SEMESTER 1992
Graduate student/professional lesbian couple and well-behaved dog seek house of flat to sublet for fall. Cambridge (Harvard Sq.) preferred, rent negotiable (617) 552-3695. (42)

ROOMMATES

Try GCN's Guaranteed Roommate Ad

All roommate and housemate ads that are prepaid for two weeks will run until you find a roommate.

Ads are *not* automatically renewed. You must call in every additional week you want the ad to run. Phone calls for renewals will be accepted on Fridays until 3 pm. 426-4469.

JP - 3 MIN. TO ARBORETUM
LF 41 seeks friendly, independent roommate for sunny JP apt. 3rd floor, porch, wash mach. Sorry, no pets. \$275+. Open to temporary housemate or part-time arrangement for out-of-town commuter. 522-2240. (32)

3LF seek 4th for spacious Belmont house. Hdwd floors, fireplace, bus line. 25+, friendly, independent, no smoking, no drugs. \$303.75+. Sara or Sandy, 484-8527. Available June 1. (40)

SHARE JP HOUSE
with veg LF 40's and cat, w/d, yd. No smoke, drugs. \$600+ 1/2 util. 522-7661. (40)

LAUGHTER AND POPCORN
Openings for 2 LFs in ecofeminist semi-coop near Davis Sq. Porches, yard, w/d. Smoke, drug and pet-free. Min. alc. Call 628-0878, 623-0703. Avail. now. (44)

JP - PONDSIDE - MAY 1
LF & Bi F seek Lf or BiF for 3 bedroom apt. to share respectful home. Semi-coop. Quiet street near T. Porch, hardwood floors, piano. \$300 + low utilities. No more pets. 524-5933.

DAVIS SQ. - SOMERVILLE
Two lesbians & cat seek lesbian to share sunny, spacious, 3 bdrm apt. Stops to T. w/d, yard. Alcohol/drug-free space. Rent \$375+. Avail May 1. 66-9644. (38)

MEDFORD
L seeks 2F or lesbian couple to share house. Laundry, no pets or smoking. Safe neighborhood near Tufts. \$250 + util. each. 396-1074. (38)

COMFY 3 BDR HSE/ MEDFORD SQ
l/l couple to share 2 flrs., drvwy, w/d, cable, porch & big yard! Pets ok. No smk/drugs. Avail. now. Sublet poss. \$370 inc. util. 391-7796.

WATERTOWN SQUARE
LF acupuncture student seeks woman to share apt. on river, 2 blocks from Watertown Sq., buses, etc., close to pike. Canoe in basement, outdoor pool down the block. \$337 +. 924-1317

3LF seek nonsmk F for sunny rm in lovely apt. in JP W/D. dishwshr. Near bus, T, Arboretum. \$290 includes all. 522-6266. (32)

TEELE SQUARE, SOMERVILLE
3 lesbians seeks 4th womanist/feminist to share the fun and frustration of creating a home community. Avail Feb. \$275+. 628-7604 (32)

ARLINGTON
LF & F seek F with sense of humor for large sunny apt., w/d, porches, fireplace, pkg., near T. Quiet, no smoke, min. drugs/alc. \$310+. 648-4107, 648-8245 (30)

HAVE YOU GOT THE FEVER?
or are you just hot? Why write not a personal and prove it? \$10 buys you 10 weeks to see if anyone else thinks so. For a limited time, your personal can appear five times (ten weeks) for only \$10. See form on page 13 for details.

EAST ARLINGTON—WALK TO T
2 lesbians plus cat seek lesbian 25+ to share our home. Good communication, sense of humor, open to racial diversity. No smoke, drugs, minimum alcohol. Beautiful, spacious apartment. \$340+, 643-2426. (30)

WEST OF BOSTON
LF + dog seeks m/F to share home in country setting. 25 min. to Boston. Lg. yard, deck, pkg., W/D, DW, fireplace, mod. kitchen. 2 private rooms + bath. No smokers. \$450+. Call (508) 655-2623. (30)

SOMERVILLE
March 1st or earlier, 3rd sought by 2 plus cat, 3rd flr. Quaintly beautiful large apt., 100 years old. Wood floors, laundry, clawfoot tub, big porch. Btwn Davis and Union Squares. Quick bus to Davis, Kendall, Lechemere and other T. Clean but relaxed. Good neighborhood, easy parking. We smoke. \$325+. Rachel, Chris or Jenny 776-2811.

3 LF, LARGE HOUSE, JP, SK 4TH
Independent, cooperative household with a sense of humor, a cat, low rent, near Ts and progressive politics seek LF, 27+, non-smoker, minimal alcohol, experience with group living. Available 3/1, 522-7572. (29)

PORTER-DAVIS SQ
2 LF seek F for friendly independent household, nice big apartment, W/D, driveway. No smoke, \$330+, 643-5903. (27)

HARVARD SQUARE AREA
LF seeks 25+ LF, Bi or SF to share 2 bedroom apt. 5 min from Harvard Square. W/D and fireplace. No smoking. \$337.50 utilities included. Call 864-6609

Professional gay male seeks same to share 2BR in Jamaica Plain. Fully equipped, large, all oak, eat-in kitchen, pentry, W/D, porch, yard, ceiling fans, new windows, fresh paint, refinished wood floors, one block from orange line. No pets, drugs, partiers. Available 2/1. 731-2205. NO FEE. (27)

FEMALE HOUSEMATE
DAVIS SQ (NEAR RED LINE/TUFTS)
Three women (womanist, of varied ages and sexual orientations) seek woman for our sunny, spacious, two floor apartment. Friendly, independent, quiet, homey. Next too laundromat, stores, park. Chem-free. \$300+ utilities, 2 phones, 666-2851, 628-7687. (27)

FRIENDLY HOME-SOMERVILLE
2LFs and dogs seek 1LF to share house in Davis Sq. Yard, walk to T. Short- or long-term. No smoke/drugs, minimum alcohol. \$350+. 776-6612. (27)

BIG HOUSE
2 LFs seek 3rd for 3 flr rent controlled house in Cambridgeport. Parking, yard, near T. Bdrm and study for \$286/mo. 661-6771 eves. (hrs)

LOVELY CONVENIENT SPLIT RANCH
3LF and 2 cats (no more please) seek fourth. Suburb, 5 min. to Tufts, 10 to Davis Sq. and Cambridge, near Rt. 93. Lovely 2 1/2 bath home, huge yard, gardens, patio, all amenities, fireplace, storage, parking, separate phone line. Non smoker, 30+ desired. \$300+, security. Available immediately. 729-8438.

HOME NEAR WORCESTER
seeking L for 4-bedroom home in Shrewsbury. Available immediately. Parking, washer/dryer, cable. Independent household, \$275/month, plus utilities. Leave message. (508) 842-1020. (ind)

QUIET COUNTRY RURAL LIVING.
SLF craftsperson seeks roommate, to occupy furnished room, shared kitchen/bath and washer/dryer. Vegetarian preferred, no smoking, no drugs, pets negotiable. 55 minutes north of Boston. 15 minutes to commuter rail. (603) 432-1081. Anytime. (28)

TEELE SQUARE, SOMERVILLE
3 lesbians seek 4th womanist/feminist to share the fun and frustration of creating a home community. Feb. \$275+ 628-7604 (28)

MAKING A HOME IN EAST ARLINGTON
1 friendly considerate LF seeks 1-2 LF's for really nice, spacious 3-bedroom. Convenient to T. Off street parking. Wood floors, sunny, porches, yard, basement laundry. Own phone line(s). Petless, smokeless. \$385+util. Call 648-0970. (30)

MEDFORD
Lesbian looking for housemate for large 2-BR apartment. Near Tufts, T, laundry, dogs okay. \$350 plus util. Loren 391-1084. (32)

NASHUA, NEW HAMPSHIRE
Seeking woman to share townhouse Exit 8. Sunny, large bedroom/closet, washer/dryer fireplace, dishwasher, some storage. Friendly independent environment. No smoking. \$290+utilities. (603) 886-9445. (32)

ON STREET W/DIVERSITY
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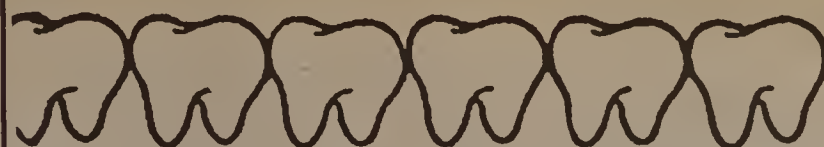
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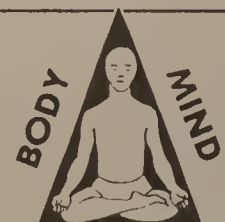
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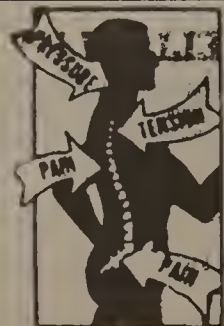
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PRISONERS SEEKING FRIENDS

I'm writing an anthology of male sex in prison. To participate in survey, write: Ricardo, 4417 S.W. 66th Terrace, Davie, FL 33314

I don't have any family. I'm looking for someone that wants to meet a man of 40 for friendship and maybe much more. I'm looking for someone open-minded, honest and who can help me out from time to time, Walter L. Smith, # 91155, P.O. Box 97, McAlester, OK 74205

To all transsexuals of colors: I am a Black male, 170 lbs., with a good build, age 29. I like Jazz, soft rock, soft soul and some country music. I am looking for a one-on-one relationship. Honesty and loyalty are a must. No games please. I promise to answer all. Send photo. Jeffery L. Walker, # 191-547, P.O. Box 56, Lebanon, OH 45036

Muscular, Bi-, Black male, 31 yrs. old, extremely lonely and in desperate need of someone to write. Sexual preference, race, age, looks unimportant. Sincerity is though. I enjoy all types of music, body-building, drawing and reading. I have a heart of gold, but no one to share it with. John Paris, 89A-8693, Attica Correctional Facility, Attica, NY 14011-0149

I am 6 ft. tall, 175 lbs., with brownish-blond hair, hazel eyes. I am a 23 yr.-old white male, very lonely and in need of a friend ... or possibly a relationship. I'll be free in 6 months. Waiting to hear from you. Steve Nelson, #448645, Ellis #II, Huntsville, TX 77340

27 yr. old inmate seeking pen pal. 5'11", 170 lbs., blond hair, blue eyes. Will answer all letters. Please write: Randal Schaffer, #96763, Kentucky State Penitentiary, P. O. Box 128/5-4B-8, Eddyville, KY 42038-0128

Young country boy, doing time here in Texas State Prison. Looking for a good friend to write to in the free world!! My interest are reading, writing, sports, working out, travel and good people. Will write all who reply. Dwight Mims, 443459, Rt. 4, Box 1200, Rosharon, TX 77583

Gay male, 28 years old, 5'6", 135 lbs., long brown hair and hazel eyes, would like to write to anyone who would be kind enough to write to me. I have no friends or family and will be released from prison 11/93. Edward Corey, # 03633-03, P.O. Box 1000, Leavenworth, KS 66048

Lonely 33 year old prisoner with interests including good music, books, sports and people. I am an avid student and aspiring author. I seek a correspondence leading to friendship, support (and hopefully love). Eager to share life, will respond to all. Paul Magill II, #059128, P.O. Box 747-V-2-S-1, Starke, FL 32091

I am 35 years old, 6 ft., 2 inches in height with an orange skin complexion. I am a Black, gay male. I like piano, organ and guitar. I like playing chess and am interested in poetry, prose and law. I also like swimming, reading, writing and other activities. Willie Marshall, # 056855, Florida State Prison, P.O. Box 747-U-3-N-12, Starke, FL 32081.

GWM, 27 yrs. old, brown hair and brown eyes, 5'8", 140 lbs. Looking for correspondence and friends. All letters answered. I cannot write other inmates. Timothy Ward, #515280-1129, Marion Correctional Institute, P.O. Box 158, Lowell, FL 32663

I am looking to write to anyone as a pen-pal and looking to build from there. Age is no problem. Michael Williams, # 86A4960, Box 51, Comstock, NY 12821

Looking for Mr. Right: GWM, 24 yrs. old, would like to write to older, mature men. I can't write other prisoners. Bruce Brick, #145616, P.O. Box 514, Granite, OK 73547

I am a young Black woman who is 26 yrs. old. I am a lesbian who is looking for a nice, beautiful woman who wants to spend some time with me, giving me strength and hoping to see the days through together. Brenda

Cottle, #0A0338, P.O. Box 180, Muncy, PA 17756

WOMEN PRISONERS

Caucasian woman, 28 yrs. old, medium build, blonde-red hair and green eyes. I like alternative rock music. Betsy Holloway, W#41580, CIW-BA 1006-L, Frontera, CA 91720

I am a white female, 25 yrs, of age and of Italian heritage. I have brunette hair, gray eyes, am 5'2" and 126 lbs. I enjoy writing poetry, reading Shakespeare and frisbee. I am active, well-mannered and educated. Cheryl Vitello, P.O. Box 7007, Carson City, NV 89702

Dyke seeking the lady of my dreams to fill my strong arms. I'm a Gemini and I am searching for someone warm and soft who will share all that life has to offer. Please write. Bobby Jo Pitman, #4520, Box 150, Kentucky Correctional Institution for Women, Pewee Valley, KY 40056

I would like you to add my name to the next pen-pal list that goes out. Thank you very much! Misty Stevenson, W#39383, CIW-BA 1006-U, Frontera, CA 91720

23 yr. old woman, 5'3", 130 lbs., brown hair (medium length) and green eyes. I am a Taurus. Femme in need of masculine correspondence—males or females reply. Will answer all letters. Photo gets mine. Nancy Russo, Box 9007, Framingham, MA 01701-9007

I would like to meet individuals who are open-minded, sincere, with a sense of humor and who enjoy traveling. I am a truck driver and I travel the U.S.A. Write: James Kitchens, # 94789, P.O. Box 514, Granite, OK 73547

I am very lonely and would like someone who could share their friendship and possibly a loving relationship. Please write: Angel Flores, #89-284, P.O. Box 45699, Lucasville, OH 45699-0001

I would like to correspond with someone just for me. I am an African American, 45 yrs. old, given to social pleasures. I am in excellent shape, enjoy long walks on the beach, hand ball and gardening. I enjoy my own company just fine, but also like to share experiences, some fun correspondence and friendship. Glenn C. Pitts, # AH-9440, Drawer R, Huntingdon, PA 16652

Loveable, lonely inmate seeking correspondence and more from open-minded individuals who can look beyond my present incarceration. Apprx. 1 yr. left to do. Pictures appreciated. Daniel Ambrose, #856548-C-2, P.O. Box 473, Westville, IN 46391

Intelligent, handsome, humorous, Bi-male seeks mature, caring GM, TV or TS. Steven Rhem, D-37635, P.O. Box 3535, 101-42, Norco, CA 91760

Jailhouse-lawyer, altruistic, vivacious GCM ("C" is for Cuban) 30ish with an amiable quality. In want of exchange of mind and heart, seeking GM with amenities of same. Enrique Diaz, #065599, P.O. Box 747, Starke, FL 32091

W/M convict, 50 yrs. old, needs a friend. I'm going before the parole board in July and have been down for 9 yrs. Have about 3 yrs. left to serve if I don't make parole this time. I have no friends or contacts on the outside to help me find and meet the job requirements of parole. All letters will be answered. Michael Duerr, 78666-012 Mephis Unit, P.O. Box 34550, Memphis, TN 38314-0550



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LESBIAN CONTRADICTION

A Journal of Irreverent Feminism. Quarterly of commentary, analysis, reviews, cartoons & humor by and for women who are political, open-minded

Calendar

19 SUNDAY

Provincetown ♦ Dorothy Allison reads from new novel, *Bastard out of Carolina*, 4 pm at Now Voyager, 357 Commercial St. Info: (508) 487-0848.

New Hampshire ♦ Easter Sunrise on Mt. Monadnock w/Chiltern Mtn. Club. Hike in by flashlight, wait for sun. Breakfast later. Info: Mike, (603) 644-7658.

20 MONDAY

New York, NY ♦ Julie Wilson w/William Roy: benefit appearance for People w/AIDS Coalition. 8:00 pm at The Ballroom, 253 W. 28th St. \$20 + 2-drink min. Info: (212) 532-0290; res: (212) 244-3005.

Cambridge ♦ Gay/Lesb. Cartoonists, featuring Dykes to Watch Out For and Gay Comix. Cambridge Cable TV Chan. 19, 7pm.

21 TUESDAY

Cambridge ♦ 30+ Lesbian Rap. Topic: Art of Dating. 7-8:30pm, Women's Ctr., 46 Pleasant St. Free. Info: 354-8807 (tty/voice).

Cambridge ♦ Bisexual Women's Rap. Topic: Coming Out Stories. 7:30-9:30pm at Women's Ctr., 46 Pleasant St. Free. Info: 354-8807 (tty/voice).

Boston ♦ Violence Against Lesbians, Gays & Bisexuals. Panel disc., 7:30pm, Adams House, Harvard Univ. Part of Take Back the Night series.

Cambridge ♦ DOB coming out rap: "Coming Out to Friends." Old Camb. Baptist Church, 1151 Mass. Ave., 8pm. Info: 661-3633.

Cambridge ♦ Benefit concert for Cambridge Cares About AIDS. Ellen Archer, soprano, Laura Park, violin, Michael Strauss, piano, Owen Young, cello. North-Prospect Church, 1803 Mass Ave, Porter Sq. Tix \$8. Accessible. Info: 547-1448.

W. Hollywood, CA ♦ Mixer at The Rose Tattoo. Spons. by Lawyers for Human Rights, Lesb./Gay Bar Ass'n of LA, Gay/Lesb. Law Enforcement Officers Ass'n of LA. 665 N. Robertson, 6-8:45pm. \$7/\$5 students. Res. req: (310) 788-9224

Boston ♦ "Do I Have an Issue with Being Gay?" Facilitated group disc. Spons. by Gay Fathers of Greater Boston. 8-10pm at Lindemann Ctr., 25 Stanford St., Boston Rm. (plaza level). \$2 don. Info: 742-7897.

22 WEDNESDAY

Boston ♦ Greater Boston Business Council Dinner w/guest Linda Villiarosa, *Essence* editor. Back Bay Hilton, 40 Dalton St. Cocktails/networking begin at 6pm in 2nd fl. ballroom. \$20 members/\$25 guests. Res. required: 236-GBBC.

Boston ♦ NOW protest as Sup. Ct. considers PA anti-abortion law. 5:30pm, Gov't Ctr. Wear black ribbons for those who died for lack of safe, legal abortion. Info: 782-1056.

Watertown ♦ "A Life Worth Living," talk by psychotherapist Carly Lund for adult children of alcoholic/dysfunctional families. Free. Watertown Public Library, 123 Main St. 7pm. Info: 666-2041.

23 THURSDAY

Boston ♦ Meeting to organize Boston Lesbian & Gay Pride Parade & Rally. Newcomers welcome. 7:00pm, Boston Center for Lesbians & Gay Men, 338 Newbury St. Wheelchair accessible. For more Info 262-3149.

Dorchester ♦ Dorchester Gay/Lesb. Alliance's licking, sticking, stuffing party. Info/time/place: 825-3737.

Cambridge ♦ Poetry reading by Jorie Graham, 8pm, Bldg 6-120 at MIT. Info: Cldy, 253-9469.

Amherst ♦ *Pink Triangles*, film at Campus Ctr. Rm. 908, UMass, 7pm. Free, open to public.

Boston ♦ "Brother to Brother," workshop for African-American gay men. Spons. by AAC and Multicultural AIDS Coalition. HIV+ especially encouraged. 6-8pm, Harriet Tubman House, 566 Columbus Ave., 3rd Fl. Free. Registration req. Info: 437-6200, ext. 499.

Portland, ME ♦ Reproductive Rights and Gay People—Why Men Should Care. Sponsored by The Matlovich Society. 7:30-9:00pm, Rines Auditorium, Portland Public Library, 5 Monument Sq. Accessible, interpreted. For more Info (207) 657-2850.

24 FRIDAY

St. Johnsbury, VT ♦ Boston Gay Men's Chorus benefit for Vermont AIDS Community Awareness Project. 8pm, North Congregational Church. Interpreted. Info/tix: (802) 748-2015.

Jamaica Plain ♦ Cathy Winter & Doshie Powers in concert. 8pm at Crones' Harvest, 761 Centre Street. \$5.00. For more info 983-9530 tty/dd.

Watertown ♦ Potluck dinner/meeting of Lesbian Lawyers & Legal Workers. New members welcome. 7:00 pm at Pauline's. Info/directions: 483-3685.

Cambridge ♦ DOB 35+/- rap. Old Camb. Baptist Church, 1151 Mass. Ave., 8pm. Info: 661-3633.

Cambridge ♦ *Sex & Art*, multimedia performance about lesb. sexuality w/Susie Bright, Maggie Cassella, Klee & Tell. Payne Hall, Harvard, 8pm, \$17. Tix at New Words, Arborway Video & Sound, Wood & Strings, or 1-800-THE TICK. Accessible, Interpreted. To benefit *Drawing the Line* art exhibit (see May 25 listing).

New York, NY ♦ Lesbian movie night at Lesb./Gay Comm. Services Ctr., 208 W. 13th St., 8pm. \$8 donation sugg. Info: (212) 620-7310.

New Hampshire ♦ Moderate hikes to White Mtn. waterfalls w/Chiltern Mtn. Club. Stay at B&B. Info: Bob, (617) 282-9192 or Alan, (508) 658-4652.

25 SATURDAY

Northampton ♦ *Drawing the Line*, lesbian sex photo exhibit by Susan Stuart. Viewers asked to write their comments on the walls Thru May 18 at Thomas Market APE Gallery. \$3 suggested. Info: (413) 586-8251.

Hanover, NH ♦ Boston Gay Men's Chorus in concert. 8pm, Dartmouth College's Hopkins Center for the Arts. Interpreted. Info/tix: (603) 646-2422.

Boston ♦ "Caring for Someone with AIDS," free workshop by AAC, 10am-1pm, 131 Clarendon St. 4th fl. Must pre-register. Childcare/respite care in your home avail. Info: Laura Derman, 437-6200, ext. 233.

Boston ♦ Opening of Condom World, 332 Newbury Street. Boston's 1st condom/gift ship. Over 750 square feet of incredible protection! 10am-11pm. Info: 267-SAFE.

Boston ♦ Potluck/gen'l meeting/election of officers of NE

Gay/Lesb./Bisexual Veterans. 1-4pm at the GL&BI Service Ctr., 338 Newbury St. Small donation requested. Info: Cliff, 723-8127.

Somerville ♦ Comic Kate Clinton at Somerville Theater in Davis Square, 6 & 9 pm. Tix \$14.50/\$16.50. Accessible. Info/ticket locations: 661-1252.

Albany, NY ♦ Moving Our Agenda: statewide les./gay political organizing conference. Thru 27th at Washington Inn, 1375 Washington Ave. \$40/\$25 low inc. Must pre-register. For Info re transpo/housing, call (518) 433-0134.

Cambridge ♦ Self-defense course for beginning women/girls. 10-11:30am at Sanchin Women's School of Karate, New Dance Complex, Central Sq. Info/prices: 393-9423.

Western MA ♦ Workshop for les./gay parents & their children aged 5-18 (unaccompanied parents also welcome). 9:30am-1pm. W/therapists from Counseling Associates (Westboro) and Framingham Counseling Collab. Info/location: (508) 366-8576.

Cambridge ♦ DOB singles' rap. Old Camb. Baptist Church, 1151 Mass. Ave., 7 pm. Info: 661-3633.

Boston ♦ Open call screening at The Boston Film and Video Foundation, 1126 Boylston St. Sponsored by Blackburst Multimedia. \$5, includes reception. For more info/showtimes, call Gigi Picillo or Suzanne Taylor, 859-1822.

Boston ♦ "Ministering to the Needs of Black Women" Program to assist African Amer. women change their lives through self-love/loving others. Women's Theological Ctr., 140 Clarendon St., 6th Fl. 9am-4pm. Pre-reg. sugg. \$6 advance/\$7 door. Location TBA. Info: 536-8782.

26 SUNDAY

Amherst ♦ Sara Cytron, Jewish lesb. comic from NYC, w/Justina and Joyce opening. Hampden Theatre, 7:30pm. For Info/location: Program for G/L/B Concerns, Crampton House/SW, UMass Amherst, 01003.

Jamaica Plain ♦ Massage by Rezakkah, 2-4pm; Self-massage class (arms & hands), 4-5:30pm. Crones' Harvest, 761 Centre Street. For more Info 983-9530 tty/dd.

Foxboro ♦ Spring hike/picnic spons. by Triboro Triangles, Attleboro area ass'n for les/gay/bi & friends. 1 pm. Bordenlands State Park off Rt. 123. Info: SASE to PO Box 2751, Attleboro Falls 02763. (508) 223-4636 (voice); (508) 223-4637 (tty).

Boston ♦ Teen Support Group, 12 & older, and their gay or lesb. parents. Fenway Comm. Health Ctr., 7 Haviland St. 12-2pm. Info or to arrange childcare: Barbara Herbert, 491-6816.

Boston ♦ Gay Fathers of Greater Boston Annual Banquet at the Dome Room of the Lenox Hotel. Cocktails 6:30pm, dinner/dancing 7:30pm. Raffle. Reserve by Apr. 21. \$50 benefactors/\$27 regular. Info: 267-7299.

Boston ♦ CPPAX (Citizens for Participation in Political Action) 30th Anniversary Dinner w/Jim Hightower, Deborah Arnesen, Fr. Robert Drinan, Derrick Z. Jackson. Sheraton Hotel, Dalton St. 4pm reception/awards ceremony, 6pm dinner/program. Tix \$30. Info: 426-3040.

27 MONDAY

New York, NY ♦ Funny Gay Males: benefit appearance for People w/AIDS Coalition. 8:00 pm at The Ballroom, 253 W. 28th St. \$20 + 2-drink min. Info: (212) 532-0290; res: (212) 244-3005.

Cambridge ♦ Lesbian Rap: Is Fantasy Good for your Health? 7:30-9pm at Women's Ctr., 46 Pleasant St. Free. Info: 354-8807 (tty/voice).

Boston ♦ People of Color Address Racism/Homophobia. Panel disc. at Wheatley Student Lounge, 4th Fl., UMass/Boston, 100 Morrissey Blvd. 1-3:30pm. For ASL interp./gen'l info: 287-7983.

28 TUESDAY

Boston ♦ Peter Donnolly/Aimee Roberts, singers/songwriters. 1-3:30pm, Wheatley Student Lounge, 4th Fl., 100 Morrissey Blvd. Part of UMass/Boston's Pride Month. For ASL interp./gen'l info: 287-7983.

Cambridge ♦ "A Life Worth Living," lecture by psychotherapist Carly Lund, about growing up under stress. Free. 7:30 pm, Cambridge Public Library, 449 Broadway.

Cambridge ♦ Bisexual Women's Rap. Topic: Sex. 7:30-9:30pm at Women's Ctr., 46 Pleasant St. Free. Info: 354-8807 (tty/voice).

Cambridge ♦ 30+ Lesbian Rap. Topic: Safe sex (w/speaker). 7-8:30pm, Women's Ctr., 46 Pleasant St. Free. Info: 354-8807 (tty/voice).

Cambridge ♦ DOB 20-something rap: "Erotic Poetry Reading." Old Camb. Baptist Church, 1151 Mass. Ave. 8pm, Info: 661-3633.

29 WEDNESDAY

Cambridge ♦ Italian cultural performance: lute, soprano, readings, folkdance, ballet. Spons. by City of Camb., Camb. Arts Council, Discovery 500. 7:30 pm, Dante Alighieri Center, Kendall Sq. Info: 349-4380.

Boston ♦ "Tongue Fu: Using Humor to Combat AIDS-Related Stress." Playshop w/Melina Rose. Fenway Comm. Health Ctr., 7 Haviland St. Accessible, free. For ASL/gen'l info: 267-0900 x287.

Springfield ♦ Seminar: "AIDS Coalition: What We Need to Know and Do." Also, Future Directions and 5th Year Celebration. Open to public, free. Springfield College, Locklin Hall, Rm 233. 7-9pm. For more Info James Genesid (413) 788-3221.

30 THURSDAY

Jamaica Plain ♦ Open mic for wimmin with Sharon Sue Kleinman, Music, comedy, poetry. 7:30pm at Crones' Harvest, 781 Centre Street. \$5 sugg. To sign up: 983-9530 tty/dd.

Newton ♦ Moment of remembrance of victims of Holocaust and of all genocides. 12:00-1:00 pm at War Memorial Rotunda, Newton City Hall. Spons. by Temple Shalom and Newton Human Rights Commission.

Boston ♦ Alan Helms reads from *Odd Man In*, 10-11:30am. Also, Pride Party, 1-5pm Wheatley Student Lounge, 4th Fl., UMass/Boston, 100 Morrissey Blvd. For ASL Interp./gen'l info: 287-7983.

Amherst ♦ *Two in Twenty* (Finale). Spine-tingling conclusion of lesb. soap opera, Campus Ctr., Rm. 908, UMass, 7pm. Free, open to public.

MAY 1 FRIDAY

Boston ♦ "Positively Speaking, Part II," workshop for HIV+ gay men. 7-10pm at AAC, 131 Clarendon, 4th Fl. Free. Reg. req. Info: 437-6200, ext. 499.

Brooklyn, NY ♦ Singer-songwriters Zenobia, Jaqu  DuPr  , Laura Wetzler in concert, 8pm, Park Slope Methodist Church, 6th Ave & 8th St. \$10 advance/\$12 door. Info: BWMA, (718) 788-1775.

Portsmouth, NH ♦ Transvestite/transsexual disc. group. 7:30pm. Free. Info/directions: David or Renee at (603) 433-5377, or (603) 942-8732.

Cambridge ♦ DOB 50 +/- rap: "What are our Priorities in Relationships?" 8pm, Old Camb. Baptist Church, 1151 Mass Ave. Info: 661-3633.

Washington, DC ♦ Strategic Nonviolent Campaigns: The Next Step in the Struggle for Justice, workshop led by Mubarak Awad and George Lakay. Lasts thru May 3. \$90-\$230 sliding, incl. food. Info: (202) 244-0951, (215) 729-7458.

2 SATURDAY

Boston ♦ Harvard Medical School Gay/Lesb./BI Student Ass'n dance party. 9pm-1am, Harvard Medical School, MEC Atrium, 260 Longwood Ave. \$3 students/\$5 others. Info: John, 432-9199.

Cambridge ♦ DOB Wild Women join Chiltern Mtn. Club for aft. 7-mile beginner's hike at World's End conservation area. Rain date May 3. Info: 262-3724.

Washington, DC ♦ Conference on the Concerns of Vietnam Vets, thru May 7 Includes les/gay/bi's. Oppty to testify before Congress. For more info, contact William Joiner Ctr. for the Study of War and Social Consequences, UMass.

Danvers ♦ Gay May Day potluck, 6:30pm, North Shore Unitarian Univ. Church, 323 Locust St. (Rte. 35). Newcomers welcome. Info: North Shore Gay/ Lesb. Alliance, PO Box 806, Marblehead 01945.

Cambridge ♦ Membership mtg. for Boston Mobilization for Survival. Noon-5pm. Info: 354-0008. -

Boston ♦ "Caring for Someone with AIDS," free workshop focusing on finances. 10am-1pm, AAC, 131 Clarendon St. 4th fl. Must pre-register. Childcare/respite care in your home avail. Info: Laura Derman, 437-6200, ext. 233.

8 FRIDAY MAY

Cambridge ♦ DOB couples' rap: "Planning for the Future," 8pm, Old Camb. Baptist Church, 1151 Mass. Ave. Info: 661-3633.

Attleboro ♦ Hat night/potluck spons. by Triboro Triangles, area ass'n for les/gay/bi & friends, 7:30pm, Larson Ctr., 25 S. Main St. (corner Rt. 152/123). \$3; members free. Info: SASE to: PO Box 2751, Attleboro Falls 02763. (508) 223-4636 (voice); (508) 223-4637 (tty).

SATURDAYS

Boston ♦ 40+ Lesbians. Social group sponsoring potlucks, billiards, plays, brunches, new members welcome. For more info 891-3711, 599-4472.

Boston ♦ Prime Timers (older gay men) meets monthly. Info: 262-8685.

Cambridge ♦ Swingtime. Monthly lesbian, gay, bi swing dance with authentic blg band sound. First Sat. of month. Old Cambridge Baptist Church, 1151 Mss. Ave. 8:15-9pm. \$6 includes refreshments. For more info 629-2219.

Boston ♦ BLOW (Boston's Leathermen On Wheels). New social club for gay motorcyclists now forming. For more info and location 783-9296.

Boston ♦ Frontrunners. Meet at Metropolitan Health Club for 2 to 5-mi. run along Charles. Lockers and showers \$1.00, 10am. Also: Tues, 11:45pm, at MHC; Wed. 6:45 pm. at Hatch Shell; Sun. 3:00pm. at Jamaica Pond Boathouse. Info: Sara 524-4025.

Boston ♦ "Two-Steppin' for AIDS." Texas Two-stepping and line dancing for the HIV positive community and their friends. At the Boston Living Center, YWCA, 140 Clarendon St., 7th fl. Third Saturdays, 7:00-12:00pm. Donations go to direct services for people with AIDS. Info: 263-1012.

Cambridge ♦ Single Mothers' Support Group. Free drop-in group with child care, alternate Saturdays. Women's Center, 46 Pleasant St. 11am-12:30 pm. 354-8807.

Boston ♦ Pink Flamingos. TV/TS of New England. 4 to 6 pm. 338 Newbury St., 2nd flr. 247-2927.

Boston TV ♦ PrideTime—Boston G/L TV, with Bill Barnert & Cynthia Pape. 7:30 pm Boston Neighborhood Network, channels A3 and A8. Also on Cambridge Cable Channel 19, Mondays, 7 pm; and Somerville Cable Access Channel 3, Thursdays, 9 pm.

Boston ♦ Morgan Memorial Goodwill Auction, 2nd Sat. each month. Previews 9am, Auctions 10am-1pm. 1010 Harrison Ave. Free. Info: 445-1010.

Cambridge ♦ A multicultural story hour for children aged 3-8. Sponsored by FCHC and Lesbian Mothers Group. Third Sat. of every month. Info: 267-0900 ext 292.

SUNDAYS

Woburn ♦ Chiltern Tennis Assoc. Meets each Sun. for singles and doubles. For more Info (508) 670-0988.

Boston ♦ Boston Alliance of G/L Youth (BAGLY) Drop-In Center. St. John the Evangelist Church, 35 Bowdoin. (800) 42BAGLY.

Boston ♦ Gay Parents of Adolescents support group at Fenway Comm. Health Ctr., 7 Haviland Street. Last Sun. each month, Mar-May, noon-2pm. Daycare avail. Adolesc. meet separately. Info: Jenifer, 267-0900, x282.

Boston ♦ Work Issues Support Group. 2 to 4 pm G/L Comm. Ctr., 338 Newbury St.

Boston ♦ Boston Strikers Soccer Club. Weekly novice and club scrimmages. All levels. 3 pm. Info: Erik 423-0929 or Jeff 876-7612.

Cambridge ♦ Lesbian Sports. Magazine Field, Memorial Dr. Spons. by DOB. Softball 4 to 6 pm; volleyball 6 pm 'til dark. \$1. Info: Steph 625-9551.

Boston ♦ Different Strokes Swim Team. Coached workouts for swimmers of all abilities. 10:15. Info: 767-0449 or 282-3110.

Northampton ♦ 1992 Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual Pride March Steering Committee meets 2-5pm at The Family Planning Council's 3rd floor conference room. Public also welcome. Accessible. Info, donations: PO Box 280, Hadley, MA 01035.

MONDAYS

Jamaica Plain ♦ Lesbians' Job Search Support Group. 1-2:30pm at Crones' Harvest, 761 Centre St. Info: Sally, 524-0725.

Boston ♦ New Support Group for Recovering Women with HIV/AIDS. Sponsored by Women, Inc. Call Magda or Christine for a screening interview 442-6166.

Boston ♦ Monday Night Dinners for PWA's and Friends: about 100 people meeting every Monday at AAC for dinner. No reservations required. 6 p.m. AAC, 131 Clarendon St. 437-6200.

Dorchester ♦ Alcoholics Anonymous. First Parish Church, Mtg. Hs. Hill. Beginners 6:30, hardhats 8 p.m.

Boston TV ♦ PrideTime—Boston G/L TV, with Bill Barnert & Cynthia Pape. 7 pm Cambridge Cable Channel 19. Also Saturdays, Boston Neighborhood Network, 7:30 pm Channels A3&A8; and Somerville Cable Access Channel 3, Thursdays, 9 pm.

Boston ♦ Queer Nation meets 1st and 3rd Mondays at new location: Local 26, 58 Berkeley, 3rd Floor. 7:00 pm.

Worcester ♦ AIDS Project Worcester. A support group for family, friends, concerned others dealing with HIV. 305 Shrewsbury St. 7-8:30 pm. (508) 755-3773.

Cambridge ♦ Lesbian Rap Group. The Women's Center. 46 Pleasant St. 8-10 pm. 354-8807.

Cable TV ♦ "Between Takes." Often a g/l slant on events. Boston A3 Mondays 9:30 pm. Cambridge CCTV Thursdays 8:30 pm. Rhode Island Interconnect A Fridays 8:30 pm. Other areas: check listings.

Cambridge ♦ Partners/Lovers or Former Partners/Lovers of Incest Survivors. 1st and 3rd Mondays each month, 7-8:30pm, Women's Center, 46 Pleasant Street. Free. For more Info 354-8807.

Cambridge ♦ Lesbian Rap (topics vary) 7:30-9pm, Women's Center, 46 Pleasant St. Free. For more info 354-8807 (TTY/voice)

TUESDAYS

Boston ♦ "The Woman Poet." Local women poets read their work in a social setting every Tuesday. 7:30pm. Donation requested. G/L Center, 338 Newbury St. For more info 247-2927, 247-0579.

Cambridge ♦ Afternoon bicycling with Outriders (Chiltern Mountain Club cyclists). Departs Harvard Sq. Info: Bob, 266-3812.

Somerville ♦ Mtg. w/Mayor's Liaison to les/gay/bi community 2nd Tues each month at 7pm, 167 Holland St. Info: Christopher at 625-6600 x2400.

Boston ♦ Teffilat Refuat Hanefesh. "Service of the Healing of the Soul," for Jewish Patients, their families and healthcare providers. First Tues. of month. 6pm. For more info 566-3960.

Boston ♦ Gay Fathers of Greater Boston. Meetings held 1st and 3rd Tues. of month. Lindemann Center, 25 Stanford St. \$2 donation. 8-10pm. For info 742-7897.

Boston ♦ Boston Coalition for Black Lesbians and Gays. 2nd Tues. of month. Harriet Tubman House, 566 Columbus Ave. For more info 424-6989.

Jamaica Plain ♦ Batucada Belles rehearsal. Open to women of color. Multicultural Arts Center, Centre St. 7-9pm. For more info 864-5067.

Providence, RI ♦ ACT UP/Rhode Island. Call for meeting place (401) 461-4191.

Boston ♦ ACT UP/Boston. The Living Center, YWCA, 140 Clarendon St. 7 p.m. 49-ACTUP.

Cambridge ♦ Bisexual Women's Rap. The Women's Center. 46 Pleasant St. 7-8:30. 354-8807.

Cambridge ♦ Eating Awareness and Body Image Group. The Women's Center. 46 Pleasant St. 7-9pm. 354-8807.

Medford Radio ♦ Dyke on the Mike with the Noisy Nelly Show — queer radio. WMFO 91.5FM.10am-12pm. Tufts U. radio. For info 381-3800.

Medford ♦ "We the People"—with feminist Sheila Parks. WMFO 91.5FM. 7-9a.m. Tufts U. radio.

Worcester ♦ Support Group for HIV+ G/B Men and Their Significant Others. Closed meeting. AIDS Project Worcester. 305 Shrewsbury St. 7-8:30 p.m. (508) 755-3773.

Boston ♦ L/G Freedom Trail Band Rehearsals. No audition necessary. Mass College of Art, Longwood and Brookline Ave. 7:15 p.m. 266-0628.

Boston ♦ Womyn-Identified Writing Group: Poetry/short stories. Bring copies for critiquing. 7:30pm, The Center, 338 Newbury St. \$1 donation. Accessible. For more info 247-2927.

Boston ♦ Beantown Women's Rugby Club practice Tues/Thurs 6:30-9pm. All levels. For more info: Teresa at 787-3939/Laurie at 623-2341 (lv msg).

Framingham ♦ Framingham Regional Alliance of Gay/Lesb. Youth meets 2st & 3rd Tues. each month, 6-7:30pm at The Civic League Bldg., 214 Concord St. For 22 & under. Info: FRAGLY, PO Box 426, Framingham 01701.

WEDNESDAYS

Boston ♦ Women In the Building Trades will be offering free introductory workshops. 6:00-8:00pm from 10/30-12/4. At 555 Amory St. Call 524-3010 to pre-register or for info.

Cambridge ♦ Job search support group. Cambridge Women's Center. 6:30-8:30 pm. Info: 354-8807.

Amherst ♦ ACT-UP of Western Mass. meets 7:30pm at Bangs Comm. Ctr., 70 Boltwood Walk. Info: (413) 584-4213

Boston ♦ Sales Networks Program for G/L Business Owners and Supporters of the Community. 7:30 to 9:30 a.m. The Center, 338 Newbury St., 2nd flr. Registration required: Marc Spencer 262-2400.

Hyde Park ♦ Women's Pick-Up Hockey. MDC Hyde Park Rink (near Dedham). 8 to 9 a.m. Info: Janice 326-1600 x350.

Boston ♦ Boston Alliance of G/L Youth (BAGLY). Open to youth age 22 and under. 35 Bowdoin St. New persons' meeting 6 pm.; women and men meet separately 6:45 to 7:30; general meeting 7:30 pm. (800) 42-BAGLY.

Bridgewater ♦ S. Shore G/L Alliance. 7:30 to 9 p.m. Bridgewater Ctr. Primarily a social group of age 25+, but all welcome.

Hindsights

Edward II.

Directed by Derek Jarman. Based on the play by Christopher Marlowe. With Steven Waddington, Andrew Tiernan, Tilda Swinton and Annie Lennox. At the Nickelodeon, Boston, and in other cities.

Reviewed by Michael Bronski

People wandering into Derek Jarman's new film *Edward II* expecting a standard historical drama of English royalty will certainly be surprised, if not shocked, by what they see on the screen. The story of Edward, who ascended Britain's throne in 1308 at the age of 24 and was deposed and murdered in 1327 by a group of noblemen—led by the king's own wife Isabella—is usually thought of as a minor episode in early British history. In traditional history books, Edward is usually described as a "weak" king who, because he was unable to keep order in the land, became involved in a civil war and ended up being murdered. But Derek Jarman and Christopher Marlowe—whose 1593 play *Edward II* is the basis for this film—are having none of that.

As both the play and the film make clear, Edward II was murdered by power-mongers and homophobes who were furious when he refused to give up his devotion for Piers Gaveston, a commoner he had made his lover. And if Marlowe made his Edward II unconditionally homosexual, Jarman has gone one step further and made *his* Edward unconditionally *queer*.

As usual Jarman is out to shock us, not only with some explicit sexuality (as much as he can get away with and still have his film funded by the BBC) but also with a dislocating juxtaposition of historical detail and sensibility. Jarman, of course, is famous for this. His film *Sebastiane* was a Latin-speaking-gladiator-epic of Christian-homosexual-salvation filled with seductive, erotic anachronisms. *Caravaggio* recreated its steamy Italian renaissance milieu in post-modernist, revisionist tones. But in *Edward II*, Jarman takes these ideas further and more successfully than he ever has before. In many ways *Edward II* seems to be both a continuation and a culmination of all of Jarman's work until now.

Raging correctly

Derek Jarman's *Edward II* burns itself into our consciousness



(l-r) Edward II (Steven Waddington) and Gaveston (Andrew Tiernan)

In the film's opening scene we see Piers (Andrew Tiernan) and a friend having an intimate talk on the edge of a bed. Although they are speaking Marlowe's proper Elizabethan English, we can't help but notice that there are two well built naked men behind them making love. As the film continues — Jarman's script, which he wrote with Stephen McBride, Ken Butler and Tilda Swinton, is faithful to Marlowe's work with some judicious cutting — it becomes evident that half of the film seems to be in correct period costume and the other half in modern dress. The sets too, are a bit disconcerting. Sometimes beautifully appointed and sometimes barely minimalist, they seem to indicate states of mind rather than real locales; a *fantasy* of a historical drama rather than the actual thing. Jarman is determined, as he states in the film's program notes, to

"out" history — to radicalize it to suit our present day needs.

As the film continues, these odd, consistently disturbing details continue to accumulate. Queen Isabella (Tilda Swinton), who begins wearing what might be semi-modern versions of Elizabethan gowns, gradually evolves into being a *haute couture* 1950s fashion plate, her elaborate Parisian outfits making her look like Eva Peron crossed with a malevolent Grace Kelly. The conniving noblemen are dressed in well-made suits and look like rich bankers; there are even some noblewomen present at their meetings and they look like meaner versions of Margaret Thatcher. At one point in the film, when Gaveston and Edward (Steven Waddington) are forced to separate, Jarman has the Eurythmics's Annie Lennox (who looks fabulous as a sort of punked out troubadour)

make an appearance singing Cole Porter's "Ev'ry Time We Say Goodby." By the time Jarman presents a battle scene between Edward's supporters and the court troops, we are ready for almost anything and Jarman gives it to us. In a shockingly choreographed set piece Jarman gives us a street fight between OutRage (a sort of London version of Queer Nation) and modern British police. By then there is little doubt that Derek Jarman is as interested in the way we live now as he is in the way we lived then. History for Jarman—especially the history of homosexual oppression and homophobia—is not something that exists in textbooks or old plays but is connected, in a visceral, vital and immediate way to what is happening today.

Perhaps the biggest and most shocking change in this *Edward II* is the ending. Tradition has always held that Edward was murdered by the insertion of a red hot poker into his ass. The plan, concocted by Isabella, her lover Mortimer and the renegade nobility was that such a murder would go undetected because there would be no visible markings on the outer body. Throughout the film, Jarman repeatedly shows us shots of a blacksmith heating a poker in a glowing furnace and as Edward's fortunes ebb, the meaning of this scene becomes clearer and clearer. But at the film's end, just as Edward begins to accept his fate, Jarman attempts his most startling artistic coup yet—he literally changes history. As the very attractive burly executioner approaches Edward, he suddenly takes him in his arms and kisses him. Not even history, Jarman seems to be saying, is strong enough to overcome the power and the force of gay sexuality.

Edward II reflects much of Jarman's evolution over the years. Trained as a painter, he soon became involved with set design — he designed Ken Russell's true-life gothic horror story *The Devils* -- and began making his own movies in 1978 with *Sebastiane*. Although he was dealing with the topic of homophobia in that film—clearly an outcome of the gay liberation movement—his analysis was political, but vague. In the next years Jarman's politics (sexual as well as coalition) would become sharper, more nervy and cutting edge. His adaptation of

Continued on page 6

FROM THE DIRECTOR OF "CARAVAGGIO" AND "THE GARDEN"

"A MESMERIZING FILM that bristles with fury, sexuality and radical wit."

— Peter Travers, ROLLING STONE

Based on the Play by
Christopher Marlowe

Edward II

A Film by
Derek Jarman



Preceded by Gus Van Sant's short film
THANKSGIVING PRAYER starring William S. Burroughs

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